



The Antiquary.



JUNE, 1913.

Notes of the Month.

THE annual meeting of the Society of Antiquaries of London was held on April 23, when the following officers were elected: President, Sir Charles Hercules Read; Treasurer, Mr. William Minet; Director, Sir Edward William Brabrook; Secretary, Mr. C. R. Peers. Members of Council: The Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, Sir C. E. H. Chadwyck-Healey, Mr. S. P. Cockerell, Mr. O. M. Dalton, Mr. M. S. Giuseppi, Mr. William Gowland, F.R.S., Mr. D. G. Hogarth, Sir Thomas G. Jackson, R.A., Sir H. C. Maxwell Lyte, Dr. Philip Norman, Colonel J. W. R. Parker, Mr. Harold Sands, Mr. H. Clifford Smith, Dr. W. M. Tapp, Mr. H. B. Wheatley, Mr. Horace Wilmer, and Mr. J. G. Wood.

The Maidstone Town Council, at their meeting on April 30, reported that the Local Government Board had sanctioned their raising a loan for the purchase of the old so-called "Tithe Barn"—the need for saving which has more than once been referred to in these pages—to be used as a store. It is to be hoped that the utilitarian aspect of the purchase will not be too much in the foreground. The old building should be preserved as a monument of antiquity rather than as a municipal depot.

We are glad to note that the Godalming Town Council have decided, by a majority, not to pull down the old Town Hall, which

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was built in 1814 on the site of an earlier building. Historical records show that a Hundred House existed on the spot in 1532



We take the following paragraph from the *Morning Post*, May 9: "The fine collection of Persian arts and crafts formed by Mr. John Richard Preece, who was for many years British Consul-General at Ispahan, may be seen at the Vincent Robinson Galleries, 34, Wigmore-street. Mr. Preece's long residence in Ispahan afforded him excellent opportunities for securing choice examples of Persian art. Lustreware in particular is splendidly represented by a magnificent Mehrab, or Prayer Niche, from a mosque at Kashan, consisting of a great number of tiles in relief, painted in blue and brown lustre on a soft, creamy-white enamelled ground. The inscriptions seem fantastic, and the arabesque scroll-work is extremely graceful in design. This large piece is dated A.D. 1226. The catalogue contains a translation of the inscriptions, by the Rev. W. St. Clair Tisdall. Though this is the most important specimen, there are many very beautiful wall tiles, some showing Chinese influence, and two, representing a man's face, indicate a knowledge of Western art. Vases and tear bottles of celadon and iridescent glass, metalwork, and the striking spandrils, one of which decorated the arch leading to the royal stables at the Sefarian Palace, Ispahan, and the other to the royal apartments, circa 1600, are among the other treasures of the collection. There is also on view an extremely handsome Hispano-Moresque amphora (c. 1320) found under a floor in the Alhambra. This belongs to Mr. Alfred Brown, and Messrs. Vincent Robinson exhibit an admirable old garden carpet similar in character to those first designed for the Sassanian Kings in the sixth century."



In a long letter to the *Times* of May 8, Mrs. Strong, the Assistant Director of the British School of Rome, drew attention to the admirable series of Græco-Italian terracottas in the lately reorganized Museum of the Villa di Papa Giulia. We quote one paragraph: "What surprises us in all these terracottas is their freshness and spontaneity; they

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would not be out of place as specimens of Greek workmanship in any museum of Greece or Asia Minor. They never sink to the prosaic and the pedestrian; there is nothing to betray that the artists were living far from the great centres of artistic production. They thus throw a new and vivid light on the whole culture of Latium, where such masterpieces could be produced and appreciated. Hitherto Augustan art has been brought, so to speak, too suddenly on the scene by all its historians, without sufficient explanation of the slow and laborious process by which the pre-Augustan phase had come into existence. It is this lacuna in our knowledge, the result not so much of lack of material as of want of proper and trustworthy arrangement and co-ordination, which is filled by the terracottas now displayed in the new gallery of the Villa Giulia. I shall be happy if these short notes may induce any who are spending a vacation in Rome to devote some hours to this collection of masterpieces."

We have received the Fourth Interim Report on the Excavations at Maumbury Rings, Dorchester, by Mr. H. St. George Gray, which gives an account of the work done in 1912 (August 26 to September 18). Its twenty-eight pages, illustrated by five plates, contain full particulars of the diggings and of the discoveries made. The general result of the work was to confirm the views previously expressed as to the history of the site, and the character of the work executed at different periods. The details of the season's work are extremely interesting. Copies of the Report (price 13s., or 1s. 1d. by post) may be had from the author, Taunton, or from Captain Acland, Dorchester. The excavations will probably be continued in September next, but this may be the last season's work.

Sir Hercules Read, who presided at a meeting in connection with the Byzantine Research and Publication Fund, held at the rooms of the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, on May 5, stated that he had been fortunate enough to obtain from Sir Ernest Cassel a handsome contribution towards exploration in Egypt, and during the last few days the Committee of Egyptology

had granted the Fund the site of Der Wadi Sarga, west of the station of Sedfu, near Assuit.

Alderman Jacob, of Winchester, writes: "The will of William Kingsmill, last Prior of St. Swithin, first Dean of Winchester, is, like all such manuscripts, a most interesting record. Awaiting a comparison between our transcript and the probate copy, we just give a few extracts. The date of the will is 'xix daye of August, 1548.' After the usual commendations as to his soul and his desire to be buried either in the 'Churchyarde or the Church of the Blessed Trinity' (Henry VIII. dedication), he bequeaths to the high altar of the cathedral, 6s. 8d.; to the parish church over Kingsgate, 3s. 4d. There are bequests to canons, peticanons, vergers, bellringers, choristers. The following legacy is curious, for several reasons. 'To Mr. Roger Inkpen a gown of black cloth with one of the great chests in his study, a jackett, a doublett, xs. in money and two silver spoons.' The Inkpen family had two of Winchester's earliest mayors, one of whom founded the chapel and carnary of the Holy Trinity, mentioned as a ruin by Leland, who saw their shield there. The Inkpens were for generations connected with Winchester, and their descendant is a member of the Bar of England. The connection of Roger with the cathedral as above is accounted for by the fact that he was on Henry VIII.'s cathedral foundation, one of the King's bedesmen, who had 'done the State some service,' and had been wounded, etc. The prefix 'Mr.' shows him to have been of 'noble povertie,' and that the Dean regarded him highly. The Dean's geldings were named 'Jacke' and 'Button.' These are duly bequeathed, and sundry other property, some at his lodgings at the 'Tarborett within Southwark.' This word seems to recall Chaucer's Tabard. To Mr. Chancellor Ryche of the Court of Augmentacion one gold ring of Saint Sylvester in his red velvet purse. There are other curious items which we reserve till we have critically examined the probate copy."

The Historical Medical Museum, organized by Mr. Henry S. Wellcome, which was

referred to in our February "Notes," and which is to be opened in London towards the end of June, will include some objects of exceptional historical medical interest. An important exhibit in the science section will be a large collection of the original apparatus used by the famous Galvani in making his first experiments in galvanism in the eighteenth century.



A remarkable collection of votive offerings for health will be exhibited. The custom of presenting these offerings in cases of sickness is very ancient, and the collection that will be shown is remarkably fine. It will include Græco-Roman votive offerings of special anatomical and pathological interest in silver, bronze, marble and terracotta, together with a number of similar objects used for the same purpose in mediæval and modern times.



Ancient microscopes and optical instruments, gathered from all quarters of Europe, will form another important feature, and a selection of surgical instruments used by famous surgeons when operating on historical personages is promised. The collection of amulets and charms connected with English folk medicine will be very complete, and will constitute an exhibit of more than ordinary interest. A fine collection of early medical medals and coins from the Græco-Roman period, ancient manuscripts and early printed medical books will also be shown, together with many other objects of interest to medical and scientific men.



The Bill introduced into the House of Lords by Lord Beauchamp, the First Commissioner of Works, may be regarded as a consolidation of the Bills introduced last Session and amended by the Special Committee of the House of Lords appointed to consider them. The new Bill is divided into four parts. The first part provides for the purchase by agreement of any monument within the meaning of the Bill by a local authority, and for the acceptance by either the Commissioners of Works or a local authority of any monument bequeathed to them for preservation. The second part

gives the Commissioners of Works power to be constituted the guardians of other monuments not actually in their possession, and provides that once this guardianship has been established it shall continue even should the property pass into other hands. Part three gives the Ancient Monument Board (which is constituted by Clause 16 of the Bill out of representatives from the three Royal Commissions on Historical Monuments, the two Societies of Antiquaries, the Royal Academy, the Royal Institute of British Architects, the Trustees of the British Museum, and the Board of Education) power to report if any monument is in danger of destruction, in which case the Commissioners may make an order placing the monument under their protection. Under this part the Commissioners are given very considerable powers, and the Bill, if it becomes an Act, should make it impossible for any historic structure in the country to be allowed to fall into decay. Part four contains a number of miscellaneous provisions, including a substantial penalty to be imposed upon anyone guilty of defacing monuments. The owner himself becomes liable to this penalty if he had previously placed the building under the guardianship of the Office of Works. Besides the Board, one or more inspectors are to be appointed. Finally, local authorities are given power to regulate styles of architecture for new buildings in harmony with any old buildings in the neighbourhood, and to prohibit or restrict the display of advertisements outside any of these.



The Paris correspondent of the *Times* reported, under date April 22, that: "Excavations which have been in progress since 1911 in a field at Espitalet, near Montréal du Gers, have resulted in the discovery of a Roman villa of the third or fourth century. A splendid polychrome mosaic, about thirty yards in length and four yards in width, has been brought to light. It is decorated with a design of cubes, vases, and rose ornaments. Fragments of marble statues and of pottery and glassware have also been found. There are indications that the villa was built by a rich patrician, named Seveacus, who settled on the plateau with his family and a large

number of slaves, and that it was destroyed by fire at the beginning of the fifth century."



We gladly reprint the following letter from the *Guardian*, May 9 :

"SIR,

"It may interest your readers to know that a fresh act of sacrilegious vandalism is under contemplation, and that a Faculty is about to be applied for to legalize the sale of the church treasures at East Horsley, in Surrey, by the trustees who have them in custody. Can no scheme be formulated whereby these repeatedly recurring instances of the alienation of Church goods held under trust can be put a stop to, this being the fifth instance I personally have come across within the past eight months?

"If these precious objects are to be disposed of at all, it would, at any rate, be better that they should be sold in the open market to the highest bidder, and not in a hole-and-corner manner to the first comer at his own price; but the best solution of all would be that, if the Church authorities of East Horsley are incapable of appreciating these vessels either on account of their sacred character or as works of art, and cannot find proper means for safeguarding them (which is only an imaginary difficulty), these interesting gifts of some pious donor, at a time when nothing was thought to be too good a gift for the Church, should be deposited for safe-keeping either in Canterbury Cathedral, the Dean and Chapter of which are the patrons of the living, or at Winchester Cathedral—since East Horsley is situated in the Diocese of Winchester.

"ARTHUR F. G. LEVESON GOWER.

"Society of Antiquaries,
"Burlington House."



Further Roman discoveries have been made on the site of the Chester Infirmary extension. The *Birmingham Post* of May 1 said: "Within the last few days four Roman graves have been unearthed, and one of the skeletons found was that of a young adult. One grave . . . was enclosed in Roman roofing tiles, again bearing the stamp of the Twentieth Legion. Beside the tomb was

some Roman pottery, and at the foot a Samian vase."



The curious old custom of letting land by candle auction still survives in the Berkshire village of Aldermaston, the squire of which is Mr. C. E. Keyser, F.S.A. The custom was observed recently in the letting of some meadow land, called "Church-Acre," which was bequeathed several centuries ago to the Vicar and churchwardens of the parish, the proceeds of the annual letting being devoted to defraying Church expenses. A wax candle was lighted, and a pin inserted in it an inch below the flame. Bidding was then started, and ended the moment the inch of candle was burnt and the pin dropped out.



Roman remains (pottery) have often been found between the road from Winchester to Silchester and London, and that to Andover, many of them associated with incinerated remains, indicating the custom of the Roman or Romanized Britons of placing their dead by the road side. In April, during some excavations in Hyde Close for the erection of a Territorial Hall, several fragments of dark pottery were found, including pateræ and an elegant vase of dark ware, either Upchurch or an excellent imitation, with the familiar lozenge-shaped ornament. It was got out of the earth with such care as to be as perfect as it was when it left the ancient potters' works. Within the vase amidst the earth were many fragments of burnt bones. It is hoped that the vase, by the kindness of the War Office, may find a proper resting-place in the local museum amongst other finds of the kind.



The *Architect*, May 2, reported that an amusing incident occurred at the Carlisle Consistory Court in connection with the application for a faculty for placing stained-glass in one of the windows. The design submitted to the Chancellor included a representation of Esau and several dogs. The Chancellor remarked that firms designed strange things at times. Esau was quite a natural subject to select for this window, seeing that the person to be commemorated had been for many years a keeper. "We

were told," he continued, "that Esau was a cunning hunter, that he had bows and arrows, and these were represented in the design; but nothing was told them about the dogs which had been introduced." He referred to the subject because some designs had been brought before him of the most foolish character where dogs had been introduced at a period when they were held by the people in utter abhorrence. The present instance, however, was one of the cases where an artist, he thought, might introduce a conventional idea of that sort without getting into great trouble, and the faculty would be granted; but when subjects were brought with these same animals in connection with the later periods of Jewish history the Court would object.



All interested in the London Museum will have seen with pleasure that Sir William Lever has renewed his offer to give Stafford House to the nation, and that the princely gift has been accepted. The London Museum, which is most unsuitably housed at Kensington Palace, is to be transferred to Stafford House; and if the collection be well arranged the change should be in every way advantageous.



A discovery of considerable interest has been made at the Sussex village of Bramber. During excavations by the British Portland Cement Company of blue clay in the river valley above the village there were found at a depth of 12 feet to 14 feet what appear to be skulls of the bison and urus, evidently of great antiquity. Bones of the urus have been previously found at Selsey, but so far as Sussex is concerned the discovery of the bison's skull is unique. Both skulls are now deposited in the Brighton Municipal Museum. They are said to be in well-preserved condition.



The Duchy of Cornwall has acquired the property, near Dorchester, known as Maiden Castle. It is understood, said the *Times* of May 2, that the King was particularly anxious that this pre-Roman earthwork should not fall into other hands.

The Builder, May 16, reported that "the quaint old Wooden House in the High Street, Beckenham, is to be pulled down. It was built in the closing years of the latter half of the fifteenth century. The house has two stories, forming two bays, between which is a central recess, with decorative work on the front, and a highly-pitched gable roof. The house is after the late mediæval 'hall and solar' type, the middle portion being the hall open to the roof, and the two bays containing the solar and bedrooms, and the buttery and kitchen with servants' quarters respectively. A proposal is made to rebuild the fabric as a tea-house in the public park which was recently acquired by the District Council."



Combs Moss Fort, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbyshire.

BY EDWARD TRISTRAM, F.S.A.



THE County of Derby is deservedly renowned for its picturesque hills and dales, and it is also particularly attractive to the antiquary on account of the numerous stone circles scattered so widely over its moors and the prehistoric earthworks which crown the summit of some of its hills.

Derbyshire possesses four prehistoric promontory forts coming within definition A of the Earthworks Committee's classification, as fortresses partly inaccessible by reason of precipices, cliffs, or water, and defended in part only by artificial work — namely, Combs Moss, or Castle Naze, in Chapel-en-le-Frith, Fin Cop near Monsal Dale, Carls Wark on Hathersage Moor, and Markland Grips near the village of Clowne.

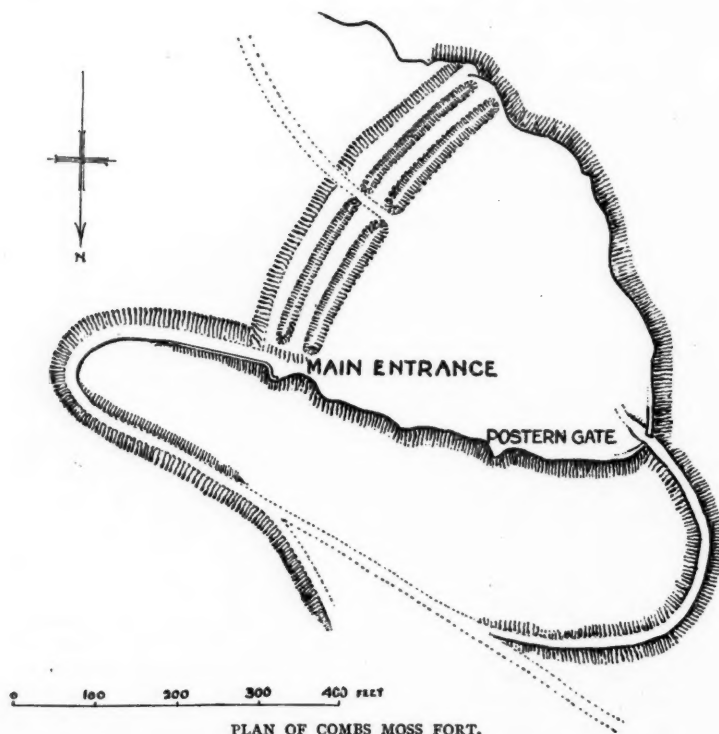
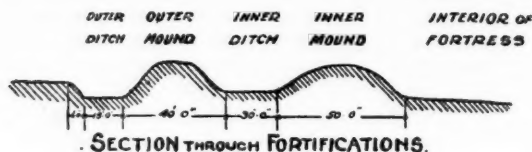
The fort of Combs Moss or Castle Naze, which forms the subject of this paper, is probably one of the best preserved and most complete of the promontory forts now remaining in England. Fortunately, its situation, on an elevated rocky moorland, has rendered it immune from the plough, and beyond the probability that stones have been taken from the inner rampart for the purpose

of building the modern stone wall round the enclosure, the fort has, during the historic period, suffered only the inevitable waste and decay caused by time and weather.

Combs Moss is an elevated plateau of

of by the men of old time for the construction of their stronghold.

The fort is situated about a mile in a southerly direction from the Chapel-en-le-Frith Station of the London and North-



moorland, stretching from the neighbourhood of Buxton on the south to the vicinity of Chapel-en-le-Frith on the north. At the northerly end it terminates in a well-defined V-shaped spur, with more or less precipitous sides, and this feature was taken advantage

of by the men of old time for the construction of their stronghold. The fort is situated about a mile in a southerly direction from the Chapel-en-le-Frith Station of the London and North-

access to the fort is not denied to anyone interested in ancient earthworks.

A description and plan of the fort by Mr. Chalkley Gould appeared in the Derbyshire Archaeological and Natural History Society's *Journal* for 1903, and in the earlier pamphlets issued by the Committee of Ancient Earthworks a plan of it was given as a typical example of a promontory fort. The last-mentioned plan was evidently a copy of Mr. Chalkley Gould's plan, and, unfortunately, both of them omit one very interesting and important feature—namely, the north-westerly entrance, or postern-gate, as it might not inappropriately be termed. This incomplete plan also appears in Mr. Hadrian Allcroft's excellent *Earthwork of England*, and again in Mr. Charles H. Ashdown's *British Castles*, recently published. The plan illustrating this paper was made by Mr. Ernest Gunson, surveyor, Manchester, and appeared in the Derbyshire Archaeological and Natural History Society's *Journal* for 1911, accompanying a paper by the writer on "The Promontory Forts of Derbyshire." This plan was the result of an actual survey, and it is to be hoped that in future it will be substituted for the former plan. It is principally with the object of preventing the incomplete plan from being further utilized that this paper is written.

The original builders of the fort threw their rampart and ditch, or, if both ramparts are contemporaneous, their double rampart and ditch, across the open side of the V, commencing at the northerly end at a point where the slope of the hill becomes precipitous. The enclosure contains about 3 acres, and is defended on the south-east by the ramparts, and on the other side by cliffs, more or less precipitous. Immediately outside the ramparts lies a wild expanse of heather, but the interior of the fort, as the result, no doubt, of its occupation for a prolonged period, is carpeted with rough pasturage.

The outer rampart is more formidable, and in a far better state of preservation than the inner. The latter, in the irregularity of its height and outline, shows many signs of wear and hard usage; while the former appears to-day almost as complete as it must have been when left by its original builders

before the probable stake defences or palisades were added.

The inner rampart is constructed almost entirely of stones gathered from the moor, and very little soil is mixed with the stones. The outer rampart is formed of similar stones, but apparently combined with a much greater quantity of soil.

The outer fosse still preserves its sharpness of outline, while the surface of the inner fosse is now scarcely lower than the level of the ground inside the fort. This raises the question whether there was originally a ditch immediately outside the inner rampart. From a study of the site, but judging without the advantage of excavation, the writer believes there was a wide but shallow fosse in that position, and that it has become silted up. The rampart in its complete state had, no doubt, a covering of earth and sods, and as these would naturally be obtained from the ground immediately outside, the result would, in the rocky soil of Combs Moss, be a wide fosse of little depth. Neither fosse could have held water, owing to the ends being open, on the south-west to the precipice, and on the north to the steep entrance slope; nor are the fosses sufficiently level.

The question whether both ramparts were constructed contemporaneously, and together formed the original defence, or whether a single rampart was thrown up by the first builders, and the second rampart added as an additional safeguard at some subsequent period, is an interesting subject for discussion. Even to the casual observer, the well-preserved condition of the outer rampart, when compared with the dilapidated state of the inner, at once points to one of two conclusions: either that the outer rampart is a work of a later period than the inner, or, if both ramparts are of the same date, that the outer has been repaired at some subsequent period when the inner was left untouched. In support of the contention that both ramparts were thrown up at the same time, it might be urged that if the inner rampart alone constituted the original defence, it would have been protected on the outer side by a well-defined fosse, and the ground does not show any decisive evidence that such a fosse existed. But this argument is by no means conclusive, because, as mentioned by

Mr. Allcroft, many hill forts have large valla and small ditches, and in Scotland, about St. Abb's Head, there is a group of forts with no ditches whatever. It is quite possible that the builders of the inner rampart at Combs Moss, with their primitive tools, would have found it a difficult matter to excavate a fosse of any considerable depth in the rocky soil.

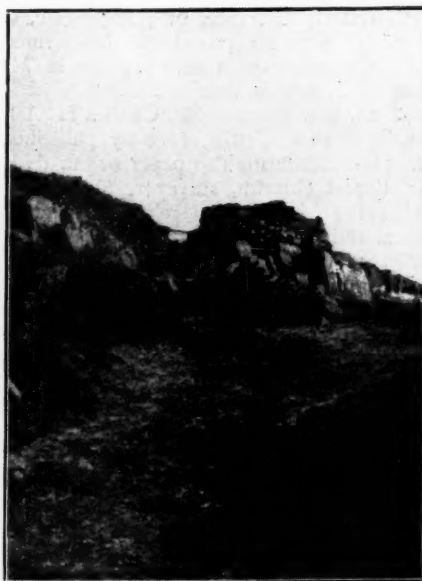
Even in the prehistoric times of promontory fortresses, some advance in the art of fortification must gradually have taken place, and it is scarcely reasonable to believe that a fort which, in all probability, formed for many generations the place of refuge for the tribe, was not strengthened and improved with the passing of centuries. It can readily be imagined that the military genius of the long-forgotten past who first conceived and carried out the idea of fortifying this defensive position, would be amply satisfied with a single rampart (with or without a ditch) thrown across the open side, and that such a work would be a sufficient protection against an enemy of the period, to whom it would appear a new, vast, and impressive obstacle. No doubt, also, with the passing of years, or of generations, this impressiveness would wear off, the single rampart would become to be considered less impregnable, and perhaps might be rushed by a foe. Consequently some succeeding chieftain would be anxious to improve and strengthen the work of his predecessor, and in front of the original defence would throw up a higher bank and dig a deeper fosse.

In the absence of more definite evidence, the most probable conclusions, as they appear to the writer, may be summarized as follows: That the defences of Combs Moss as they now stand were not the design of one chieftain, nor the work of one time; that the inner rampart is of earlier date than the outer, and represents the original defensive work; that at some subsequent period the more formidable outer rampart and ditch were added.

The original entrance, referred to by all the authorities, was at the northerly corner, between the ramparts and the precipice, where a narrow space was left for the purpose, and is approached by a steep path cut in a slanting direction up the side of the hill. An

enemy attacking this entrance would be met by a storm of stones and other missiles hurled down from the northerly ends of the ramparts, which to-day tower above the approach at a steep angle.

The other original entrance, the postern-gate, hitherto unnoticed by all the authorities except Mr. Sainter in his *Scientific Rambles Round Macclesfield*, is gained by a steep path running up close under the north-westerly angle of the enclosure, and enters a few yards to the south-west of that point. About

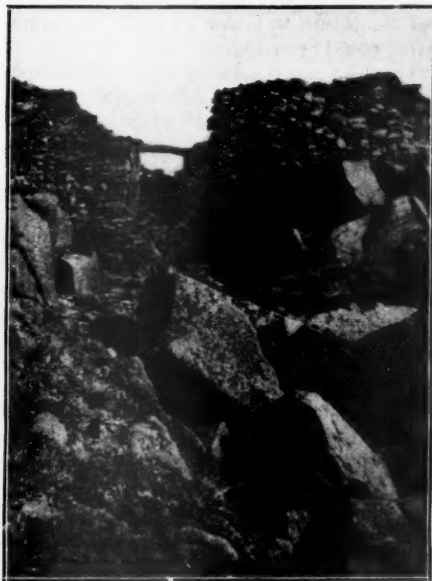


NORTH-WEST ENTRANCE AND PATHWAY LEADING TO IT.

five yards from the top a projecting rock has been roughly split or cut through to allow for the passage, which is only 3 feet wide. Here the entrance has in modern times been walled up and most effectively blocked with the usual Derbyshire dry-stone walling. The pile of loose rocks shown in the accompanying photograph lie on and cover the path. It would appear that these rocks have been thrown down in quite recent times, probably out of pure mischief.

It is interesting to notice that three out of the four promontory forts in Derbyshire—

namely, Combs Moss, Carls Wark, and Markland Grips—have this small entrance situated at a point of the enclosure the farthest away from the principal entrance and the rampart. One can readily appreciate its usefulness as a way of escape in the event of the principal entrance or the rampart being forced by an enemy, and also for the purpose of access to the fort after the closing of the principal entrance. In addition, it may have been used by the defenders for sending out a party to attack the enemy in



NEAR VIEW OF NORTH-WEST ENTRANCE:
POSTERN GATE.

the rear. Fin Cop, the remaining Derbyshire promontory fort, probably had a corresponding entrance, but this cannot be definitely asserted.

There is also now a third entrance to the fort, which passes at a right angle through both ramparts near the centre, the width of the passage on the ground being about 4 feet. From this entrance two tracks can be distinguished running across the moor, one leading towards another slanting way down the hill about 200 yards from the ram-

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part, and the other bearing in a south-easterly direction towards the higher moorland. The opinion has been expressed by most authorities that this entrance did not form part of the original design, and Dr. Cox suggests, in the *Victoria History of Derbyshire*, that this entrance may have been made by the Romans, who, he thinks, are not likely to have overlooked the advantageous position of the fort. No evidence, however, has been discovered of Roman occupation, but it should be remembered that no excavations have yet been made. Such an exposed situation on high ground would, however, scarcely have appealed to the Romans, except as a temporary military necessity. There are some indications that a portion, at least, of the materials produced by the cutting through of the inner rampart has been thrown inside the enclosure on both sides of the entrance, but there is no trace of any deposit of material removed from the outer rampart. If the cutting through the ramparts had been made for convenience of access for agricultural purposes, it would be reasonable to expect that the stones and earth removed would have been disposed of in the most convenient way by tipping them into the fosses. There is no trace of any such tipping, and, presuming that the entrance was made since the formation of both ramparts, the excavated material must have been carried away, or possibly used for the repair of the ramparts. It is reasonable, therefore, to conclude that this entrance was made during the period the fort was used as a stronghold, and from the general appearance of the entrance and ramparts the writer inclines to the opinion that the entrance is contemporaneous with the outer rampart.

An ancient trackway can be clearly traced running towards the fort from a north-westerly direction, and the path leading to the north-westerly or postern-gate entrance branches off this trackway at the bottom of the slope. The main track then continues along the northerly side of the fort at the foot of the steep slope below the precipice, and here the track is sunk to the depth of about 5 feet below the surface. The excavated earth has been thrown up on the side of the track away from the fort, apparently with the intention of affording some

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protection. The track takes a sharp curve at the bottom of the ascent leading to the main entrance, and the pathway appears to have been sunk to the depth of 2 or 3 feet for about half the distance up the slope. Higher up the path there are, or not long ago were, some traces of a stone wall on its outer edge.

Towards the westerly end of the enclosure there are some excavations in the ground which Mr. Sainter and Mr. Chalkley Gould believed to be the sites of huts; but as these excavations are irregular in shape, and by the side of them are slight mounds, which may be taken to be the refuse thrown out from them, it is doubtful whether they are anything more than pits made for getting stone for walling either in ancient or modern times.

There is a spring or small pool of water in the enclosure situated a few yards from the central entrance in a northerly direction, but it seems doubtful if, at the present day, it is of much service in dry weather. The three other promontory forts of Derbyshire have no water within the fortified area. A natural supply of water within the enclosure of promontory fortresses does not seem to have been considered by the original builders as absolutely essential. If the most convenient defensive position within their scope had a natural supply, no doubt they were glad of it; but if there was none, then they did not reject the site on that ground alone. In the latter case, when a retreat to the stronghold was decided upon, the duty of carrying skins of water would no doubt devolve upon the women and other non-combatants, who would also drive the cattle before them into safety. We must not assume that in the ancient days, when these promontory forts were constructed, the art of besieging a fortress, and so effectively surrounding it as to prevent access and egress for any prolonged period, was practised in England. Such a course of action would require much more discipline and cohesion, and also organized commissariat, than is likely to have existed amongst the wild uncivilized tribes. Possibly one or two attempts might be made to rush the rampart, and if these efforts failed, entailing, as would be inevitable, considerable slaughter, the attacking tribe would retreat.

It is more probable, however, that an attack on the fort would be considered as too hazardous, and would not be attempted unless by way of surprise, but that recourse would be had to the cunning which the savage usually displays in warfare.

It is interesting to consider whether any, and, if so, what, means were adopted by the prehistoric builders to render their rampart secure against a sudden rush of a hostile force, and also what protection, if any, was afforded to the men stationed on the rampart. It can scarcely be accepted as probable that the tribes who possessed the engineering skill and the means to throw up these huge ramparts would not devise some method of making the outer slopes practically unclimbable. Bede, in his *Ecclesiastical History*, when speaking of the wall of Severus, says: "For a wall is made of stones, but a rampart, with which camps are fortified to repel the assaults of enemies, is made of sods cut out of the earth and raised all round like a wall, having in front of it the ditch whence the sods were taken, and strong stakes of wood fixed upon its top." We also know that Cassivelaunus drove stakes into the bed of the Thames in the vain attempt to prevent the legions of Cæsar from crossing. It is quite possible, and even probable, that stakes may have been used, even in the remote period to which promontory forts are generally assigned, for the purpose of rendering the rampart secure against a rush. Irregular rows of pointed stakes driven into the ditch, or the outer slope, or top of the rampart, would have formed a most effective obstacle to an attacking party. Some rude stockade of tree trunks and loose stones may, in addition, have crowned the summit of the rampart, and afforded some protection to the defenders against the missiles of an enemy.

The measurements of the fort are as follows:

	Feet.
Length of rampart	547
Width of outer fosse at top of cutting	30
Depth of ditto from level of ground	6
Height of outer rampart from bottom of outer fosse	14
Width of inner fosse at top of ramparts	50-65

	Feet.
Depth of ditto from top of inner rampart	10
Height of inner rampart	10
Length of west side of enclosure ...	450
Length of north-east side of enclosure	466
Area of enclosure about 3 acres.	



The Brass of Sir Thomas Massyngberd, Gunby, Lincolnshire.

BY G. ANDERSON.

IN the north side of the nave, in the Church of St. Peter, at Gunby, two miles from Burgh, in Lincolnshire, lies a large slab containing the effigies of a knight and lady, under a mutilated double canopy, the whole being enclosed by a border inscription. The knight wears a camail and hawberk of banded mail, with scalloped borders, and a plain jupon. His legs and arms are encased in plate armour. The laces which fasten camail and bascinet together are covered by a leather band. The broad belt, from which are suspended sword and misericorde, is ornamented with roundlets, containing alternately leaves and roses. His wife wears a kirtle, with tight-fitting, mitten-like sleeves, and a mantle. Her headdress is of the earlier crespine form—that is, the hair is bunched above the ears, the veil falling gracefully at the sides. At her feet are two small lap-dogs. Together with her husband she wears the collar of S.S. Of the fine canopy nothing remains but the two cinquefoil arches and parts of the pinnacles. From the latter and from the side shafts were originally hung seven, or possibly nine, shields, of which two alone survive. The first bears Massyngberd—azure, three cinquefoils, and in chief a boar passant, or, bearing a cross formy, gules; and the second, the same impaling an erased coat—probably a fess, for Bernak. The others possibly had Woodthorpe and Mablethorpe in various combinations.

The date of this brass is *circa* 1405, and it commemorates Thomas, son of Hugh Massyngberd, and Juliana Bernak, his wife. It is known that he married this lady about the year 1406, and at the same time left his home of Sutterton for Burgh, where his wife held lands from her father, Thomas Bernak. The brass was, therefore, probably laid down directly after his marriage.

One of the most interesting features of this brass is the inscription. At the present day about one half of the whole remains, of which a fragment is covered by the chancel step. The Rev. W. O. Massyngberd in his account of the family gives the greater part as follows:

“✠ Syr Thomas Massyngberde and dame [Johan] hys wyfe specyale desyres all resnabull creatures of your charyte to gyfe lawde and prays unto . . . queen of everlasting lyfe. . . .” (The portions in brackets are now lost or covered.) I cannot say what authority he has for the missing pieces, but it is perfectly certain that, in the excellent engraving of the brass in Boutell’s famous work, the word “gyfe” does not appear. Instead we read “Cryte”—evidently an archaic spelling of “Christ.” Unfortunately Boutell cannot help us with the next words, but I think it would be feasible to complete the missing part with a sentence such as “to pray for the joy.” The latter half of the inscription would thus run “. . . of youre charyte, to Cryte to pray for the joy of everlasting lyfe with him.” From the spelling and type of the lettering it is obvious that this inscription is “palimpsest” (in the metaphorical sense of the word). It was probably made for one Sir Thomas Massyngberd, great-grandson of the original Thomas, in order to convert the brass into a memorial to himself and his wife Joan, daughter of John Bratof.

At the lower sinister corner of the slab is a piece of border fillet inscribed “charyte to C.” Between these are the Latin words “die mensis,” which have been partially erased. I think it is unlikely that these words belonged to the original inscription, since, had the second Sir Thomas wished to employ his ancestor’s epitaph, he would surely have used the whole and not merely one or two words. (It is worth mentioning that in an old publication of the Camden

Society, the words "Quorum animabus propicietur Deus" are given as having been erased from the brass; these may have existed on some portion of the border fillet now lost, but they are certainly not to be seen at the present day.) That the original inscription did exist entire in the time of the later Sir Thomas is highly probable, seeing that only about a hundred years elapsed between the deaths of the two men.

A more likely theory to account for the presence of the erased letters is that they were "wasters" from the engraver's workshop. If one could leave out of consideration the words "Quorum animabus propicietur Deus," one would be tempted to say that the "die mensis" formed part of a "ready-made" brass, and were rendered unnecessary because the customer had the date of his death expressed by the Saint's day. That "ready-made" brasses were engraved we have proof enough. In this very brass, for instance, when it was first made, there was no collar of S.S. The order for the monument evidently stipulated that this ornament should be included. The makers, therefore, set to work to make this alteration in the least troublesome manner. Wherever possible the join was made along the curve of the camail, so as to avoid the difficulty of cutting diagonally through the links. In this way four strips of mail were removed, and a piece exactly similar in size and form, but engraved with the collar, was inserted in its stead. The only trouble was found in the clasp and pendant, which hung down into the two bottom rows of the camail. In order to avoid the labour of entirely re-engraving these rows, only the part round the pendant was made afresh; although this was done as carefully as possible, this part of the join is much more noticeable than the rest. A somewhat similar case of alteration is on the brass of John Leventhorpe, Esq., 1433, at Sawbridgeworth, where a livery collar has been converted from one of S.S. by the removal of the letters.

"Ready-made" brasses, then, did exist, and these words, "die mensis," probably formed part of such a monument, but for some reason were never employed for their original purpose. (Such fragments of inscriptions are not uncommonly found used on

palimpsests — e.g., Topcliffe, Yorks, 1391, where nearly the whole brass is made up of them.) But the engravers, who were evidently of a frugal nature, determined to put them to some use. The raised background was therefore cut down, nearly—though not quite—to the depth of the letters, and was then crosshatched, while in the space between the old words, new ones, in raised letters, were engraved.

Having described the brass itself, something should be said of the persons commemorated. Sir Thomas was one of the five children of Richard Massyngberd, and Maud, daughter of Thomas Kyme of Friskney. One of his brothers, Christopher, was a priest, while another, John, held various offices at Calais. Sir Thomas was probably born about 1470, and some twenty years later he married Joan Bratoft. In 1495 Agnes Bratoft, a widowed relation of his wife, quit claimed to him lands belonging to her husband in "Bratoft, Gunby, and Thedylthorp"; in consequence of this he removed from Burgh to Bratoft Hall. In 1533 he was made Knight of the Sword. On the death of his wife he became a Knight of St. John of Jerusalem, and died May 25, 1552. He had four sons, of whom Oswald took part in the famous siege of Rhodes.

In conclusion, it may be of help to the collector to give the exact dimensions of the brass, since several authors are somewhat inaccurate on this point. The length of the entire composition is 9 feet, the breadth 55 inches, and the height of the figures 5 feet 6 inches.



The London Signs and their Associations.

By J. HOLDEN MACMICHAEL.

(Continued from p. 64.)



HERE was formerly a Castle in Distaff Lane*; in Mark Lane†; "near Smithfield Barres," where the carriers from Bramley lodged, as did those from Torcester, Northamptonshire

* *Calendar of State Papers* (Domestic Series) January 12, 1594.

† *Epicure's Almanack*.

and from Warwickshire* ; at Bank End and at Battle Bridge, Southwark ; in St. Clement's Churchyard ; in St. Giles's-in-the-Fields ; in Gray's Inn Lane ; "at Saffron Hill" ; and in Paternoster Row.† Also at Holborn Bridge ; "on Redrif Wall" ; and at Wapping New Stairs.‡

The *Castle Inn* in Wood Street was a famous carriers' inn. The site is now occupied by the great carrying firm of Pickford.§ Hither came the carriers from Evesham and Bewdley, in Worcestershire, and from Chester, Derby, and Sheffield.|| In 1650 the proprietor issued a farthing token. In 1689 Mr. Price records a Mr. Golding there ; in 1765, Sam Hewet, grocer. I observed some time ago the ancient name of Boucher (to-day Bouchier) as that of the sexton, on a board announcing the services of a church in Maida Vale. In 1706 Edward Bouchier was a vintner of the *Castle Inn*, Wood Street. In 1742, says Mr. Price, the carrier left here every Friday for Carlisle, and most of the North-Country towns up to Glasgow. In 1752 William Plympton was a stocking-maker at the *Castle*, Wood Street, a portion of the inn no doubt let to him for his trade.

The *Castle Tavern* in Lombard Street is thought to have stood back, and to have been approached by a narrow passage between No. 29 or 30 and 31.¶

"THE Creditors of James Stephens, late of Thames-street, London, Merchant, deceas'd, are desir'd to meet at the *Castle Tavern*, in Lombard Street, Tomorrow, at Five o'Clock in the Afternoon, in order to consider how to proceed to recover their respective Debts."**

At the "*Castle by Smythfelde-barres*" the magistrates of Middlesex used to assemble during the reigns of Edward VI., Mary, and Elizabeth, for the administration of the law. But as the business of this inn and of the

"*Windmill*" Inn increased, the justices were so much annoyed by the turmoil of the country carriers, and other persons arriving and departing, that they applied to King James I. to furnish them with better quarters.* This was the origin of the Sessions House, known as Hicks's Hall. The *Castle Inn* was on the west side of St. John Street. The inn yard must have suffered considerably from the great rain-storm which happened on May 21, 1661. Although this storm did not last much more than half an hour, the streets of London were like rivers. The water ran with such violence past the *Castle Inn* that it bore down several hogsties in the yard, and "carried the hogs down the common shore to the middle of Cheek-lane, which is near 2 Rood," etc.†

At the *Castle*, Paul's Chain, Thomas Swettingham issued a halfpenny token.

Castle in the Old Change. The proprietor issued a farthing token, the "*Worster Armes*" = A. *Castle*.‡

Castle Tavern, St. Botolph's, Aldgate.§

There was a *Castle Inn* in Piccadilly.

The fine piece of blacksmith's work which adorned the exterior of the *Castle Insurance Company*, at the south-east corner of St. James's Street (now removed to quarters opposite), was taken down "because it resembled too closely a tavern-sign"! One wonders what Mr. Norman Shaw, architect of the picturesque block, would have said to this piece of — !

The *Castle Tavern* in Paternoster Row is described by Cunningham as having been "near where Dotty's Chop House stood," and therefore not "on the spot," as Burn in his *Beausfoy Tokens* says. At the *Castle* an ordinary was kept by Dick Tarleton, the famous Elizabethan stage clown, for whom Shakespeare wrote the tag songs, such as that at the end of *All's Well that Ends Well*. In 1648 one Gough, a vintner, dwelt here, and "I. B.," says Mr. F. G. H. Price, issued a farthing token from the same place. That "exchange is no robbery" was

* Taylor's *Carriers' Cosmographie*.

† Burn's *Beausfoy Tokens*, Nos. 114, 134, 339, 340, 530, 554, 882, and 977.

‡ *Ibid.*, Nos. 966 and 1263.

§ See Mayhew's *Shops and Companies of London*.

|| *Carriers' Cosmographie*.

¶ Price's *Signs of Lombard Street*.

** *Daily Advertiser*, June 3, 1742.

* Pink's *Clerkenwell*.

† *Annus Mirabilis*, 1661, 4to., quoted in Pink's *Clerkenwell*, p. 353.

‡ *London Topographical Record*, 1907, p. 94.

§ *Vide St. Botolph's, Aldgate*, by A. G. B. Atkinson, 1898, p. 54.

quite an exploded theory so early, even, as the seventeenth century:

"On Thursday night a Man and Woman going into the Castle Tavern in Paternoster Row, called for $\frac{1}{2}$ doz. of Potch'd Eggs which were brought upon a plate with as many Silver Spoons, they eat the eggs up but changed the Spoons for those made of White Metal. These very persons have made it their practise to go to several Taverns about Town."—*Post-Man*, May 18, 1699.

The old house, which Shakespeare probably knew, perished in the Great Fire, but when rebuilt it became a rallying-point for the lovers of harmony, a musical reunion owing largely to its associations with the Young family. James Young was a maker of violins and other musical instruments, and the prowess of the Young family was celebrated in some witty verse which was published in the *Pleasant Musical Companion* (1726).

Advertisements relating to concerts at the Castle frequently occur in the mid-eighteenth-century news-sheets, after the manner of those relating to two other notable centres of harmony, the Swan by the Exchange, and the Crown and Anchor in the Strand. In 1770 the Castle had been converted to the uses of the Oxford University Press as a Bible warehouse; but on the morning of January 8 in that year a fire occurred at Messrs. Johnson and Payne's, booksellers, in Paternoster Row, which destroyed their house and the Oxford Bible warehouse, involving a loss of more than £7,000.

Castle in Westcheap (Cheapside), 1390 (14 Rich. II.).—"Thys yere the goodman at the Cooke [Cock] in Cheppe, at the new condite in Cheppe, was morder'd in hys bedde by nyght, and the wyffe of the howse brente and thre of hys servanttes drawne and hanged at Tyborne for the same dede."*

The *Castle* Inn in Holborn appears to have stood at the entrance to what is now known as Furnival Street, but was formerly Castle Street, and before that Castle Yard—i.e., the yard of the Castle Inn. Took's Court

is described in an advertisement of 1742 as being in Castle Yard:

"To be Sold by HAND

In Took's Court, Castle Yard . . . the Household Furniture of CHARLES TOWNSEND," etc.*

Lord Arundel, the great collector of art and antiquities, was living in Castle Yard in 1619-20; here also died Lady Davenant, the first wife of Sir William Davenant, the poet; and "in his house in the New Buildings in the Castle Yard, Holborn," died the wife of Secretary Thurloe, 1646.† The street maintained its credit as Castle Yard, says Mr. Wheatley, into the middle of the eighteenth century.

There was also a *Castle Tavern* in Holborn, which was on the north side, and must not be confused with the Castle Inn. It stood at the upper end of Fuller's or Fullwood's Rents, nearly opposite the end of Chancery Lane. The *Castle* is described in Strype's *Stow* (1720) as being "a house of considerable trade." This tavern is remarkable for having been, perhaps, the only real pugilists' club on record. Possibly this was owing to the redoubtable Tom Belcher's position as landlord, the brother, apparently, of the far more famous Jem Belcher. The club was designated the "Daffy," in allusion to the then favourite beverage among the "Fancy" variously described as White Wine, Old Tom, Max, Blue Ruin, a Flash of Lightning, Jacky, Stark Naked, and Fuller's Earth—the last possibly in allusion to Fuller's Rents. In its turn, "Daffy" was no doubt allusive to the joys, as a recuperative of health, of Daffy's Elixir, a famous medicine still favoured. Here, "if you had been a member, you would have met such pugilistic personalities as Burke, Jackson, Tom Belcher, 'Old Joe Ward,' Dutch Sam, Gregson, Humphreys, Mendoza the redoubtable Jew, Cribb, Molyneux, Gulley, Randall, Turner, Martin, Harmer, Spring, Neat, Hickman, Painter, Scroggins, Tom Owen, etc. In the assembly-room was, among other sporting prints, one of the famous dog Trusty, the present of

* *Chronicle of the Grey Friars of London*, quoted by Mr. F. G. Hilton Price in "Signs of Old London," *London Topographical Record*, 1907, p. 37.

* *Daily Advertiser*, June 25, 1742.

† Register of St. Andrew's, Holborn, quoted in Wheatley's "Cunningham."

Lord Camelford to Jem Belcher, and 'the victor in fifty battles.'*"

The Castle, Holborn: "A Pleasant conceite penned in verse. Collourably sette out, and humbly presented on New-yeeres day last, to the Queene's Maiestie at Hampton Courte. Anno Domini, 1593. At London Printed by Roger Warde, dwelling in Holbourne at the signe of the Castle." (See further Sir E. Brydges' *British Bibliographer*, 1814, vol. iv., pp. 259, 260.)

Castle, Cornhill.—In 1651 A. F. T. H. issued a farthing tavern token. The tavern is mentioned again in 1663. In 1656 Lodo Lloyd was a bookseller "next to the Castle."†

At the Castle in Cornhill was printed by R. H. for Humphry Blunden, in 1640, George Herbert's "Witts Recreations selected from the finest fancies of Moderne Muses, with a thousand outlandish Proverbs (selected by Mr. G. H.)," and an engraved frontispiece by W. Marshall, with the poetical explanation opposite. This exceedingly rare book was extraordinarily popular, passing through several editions before the close of the seventeenth century. Epigram 25 (signature B 5) is addressed to "MR. WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE," and others are offered to Ben Jonson, Chapman, Beaumont and Fletcher, Massinger, Heywood, Withers, Middleton, Shirley, Ford, etc.

The Castle and Falcon.—This inn had for its sign a combination, probably like those in many other instances, of two distinct signs, which have given their names to the immediately neighbouring Castle Street, and Falcon Square and Falcon Street. Assuming the Falcon to be a later addition to the Castle, one cannot even then say with certainty how the sign had its origin. But in case of doubt—at least, so far as City signs are concerned—it is better to look to the arms of the great City guilds than to seek the origin in private heraldry. Certainly the crest of Catherine Parr was a crowned falcon perched on a castle, and it is possible that this Queen's popularity, as a partisan of the Reformation—also the fact of her having, as Henry VIII.'s sixth and last wife, preserved that wayward monarch's favour to the last—may have led to the adoption of her

badge as a sign. But the Falcon occurs also in the arms of Edward IV., and is borne in the arms of the Stationers' Company; so derived, it served as the sign of Wynkyn de Worde in Fleet Street.

Until 1783 the Shrewsbury, Bridgnorth, and Stourbridge "Light Post-Coach" plied between the Castle and Falcon and Shrewsbury, going through Oxford, Enstone, Shipston-on-Stour, Stratford-upon-Avon, Aulcester, Broomsgrove, Envil, Broseley, and over the iron bridge at Coalbrook Dale.

Up to the last the Castle and Falcon was a famous coaching inn, and is believed to have given its sign, on this account, to other hostelries in divers parts of the country. Here the coaches set out to Barnstaple, Ilfracombe, Bath, Bristol, Birmingham, Coventry, Chester, Manchester, Liverpool, Lutterworth, Rugby, Taunton, and Salisbury.*

Larwood and Hotten are evidently in error when stating that the Castle and Falcon, or one on its site, was occupied in Elizabeth's reign by John Day, the printer and publisher, for Day published from a room over the City Alders-gate, "over against" which the Castle and Falcon stood. Day, in fact, usually described himself as "dwelling over Alders-gate" (in the same way that Cave occupied a room in St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell), sometimes adding "deneth [underneath] St. Martin's." Cf. the sign of the Resurrection.

From the Castle and Falcon, in Aldersgate Street, Mr. William Child advertises for "a bright bay Gelding, 14 hands, 8 years old, all his paces, bare of Flesh, has no white, carries a good Forehand." (*London Gazette*, May 27-30, 1689.)

An accident in which the common sewer played a disgraceful part is not likely to occur under our present system of drainage, since now

"In office here fair Cloacina stands."

On May 30, 1734, "a great shower of rain that fell about four in the Afternoon, caus'd such a Flood at Aldersgate, that it stopt the Common Sewer, and occasion'd a great Quantity of Water to run down the *Castle and Falcon* Inn, with such a torrent, that altho' they had shut the Gates it forc'd them

* Christopher Brown's *Tavern Anecdotes*, 1825

† *Topographical Record*, vol. v.

* Cary's *Book of Roads*.

open, and arose so high under Aldersgate, that the Horses that past that way were up to their Bellies; an Accident that had never happen'd before in the Memory of Man."*

According to an advertisement, a Mr. John Tottingham appears to have been the landlord in 1742. He advertises to let a "Brick House sash'd, four rooms on a Floor—all convenient Offices, Brewhouse, Coach-House, and Stables, pleasant garden wall'd round and planted with Fruit-Trees, with a Court-Yard before the House," situated at Ware in Hertford.† The Castle and Falcon embraced the White Horse Livery Stables, as appears from the following:

"WHEREAS some Time in the Beginning of September last a Gentleman gave a Boy Directions to go for a Mare into the Borough, and deliver'd him a Token by which he was to have her; and as there now appears some Reason to believe there is a Mistake made, therefore if the Person who owns her will make it appear she is his Property, he may have her again, paying Charges. She is a red Roan, full aged, fourteen Hands one Inch high, with a bald Face. Enquire of George Fishwick, at the *White Horse Livery Stables*, in the *Castle and Falcon Inn*, Aldersgate-Street."‡

At a meeting held in a room in the old Castle and Falcon Inn on April 12, 1799, was founded the Church Missionary Society. And in a room on the same site, on April 12, 1899, the Centenary Day was ushered in by an informal gathering of one hundred friends of the Society, who met at breakfast in response to an invitation from the Secretaries.§

The *Castle and Lion*, St. Paul's Churchyard, was the sign in 1660 of Joseph Cranford, a bookseller. A Joseph Cranford, probably the same, was bookseller in 1659 at the King's Head and Bible, also in the Churchyard.

The *Castle and Lion*—Vide the "Lion and Castle" (*History of Signboards*).

* *St. James's Evening Post* of that date.

† *Daily Advertiser*, March 18, 1742.

‡ *Whitehall Evening Post*, November 23, 1756.

§ See the (annual) *Story of the Year*, 1898-99, where there is a representation of the meeting at the Castle and Falcon, at which the Society was founded.

(To be continued.)

Frewin Hall, Oxford.*

BY HARRY PAINTIN.

FEW of the many thousands who daily throng Cornmarket, Oxford, imagine that within a stone's throw of the Clarendon Hotel there is an "ancient haunt of peace," now, and for the last 150 years, known as Frewin Hall. Since its erection the house has undergone many and great changes, not only in its architectural features, but also in the purposes to which it has been devoted. During the last eight centuries it has been successively utilized as a great landowner's town-house, a college for the reception of students from the greater houses of the Augustinian Order in England, a school for children of the freemen of Oxford, a city Bridewell and poor-house, the residence of Dr. Griffith Lloyd, who was also Principal of Jesus College; the home of Dr. Frewin—after whom it was renamed—the official residence of the Regius Professor of Medicine; the Oxford home of King Edward VII., and, finally, the house has been used as a private dwelling. A building, the history of which has extended over so long a period, cannot be without interest.

The earliest existing remains are a circular Norman pier, and a portion of the arches that rise above it. The pier itself is supported by a square plinth, merely chamfered on its upper face, and though this and the pier are somewhat early in character, the arches themselves are pointed, and must, therefore, belong to the Transitional period. To what use this crypt or cellar was originally devoted it is impossible to determine, but it probably belonged to some wealthy person, who desired a receptacle for his riches that would be immune from fire, following a custom common in the twelfth and succeeding centuries, when the ground and first floors of tenements were largely constructed of wood, and, therefore, liable to destruction from fire. Numerous examples of crypts for safe-guarding valuable documents and other property still exist. There

* The blocks illustrating this article appear by the courteous permission of Professor Oman and *The Oxford Journal Illustrated*.

is one at Burford, and a very fine specimen was that belonging to John of Ducklington, a wealthy fishmonger, and eleven times Mayor of Oxford, which was, unfortunately, destroyed when the present post-office was erected. Another splendid, and happily existing example, is the Carfax cellar, now occupied by Messrs. Jones.

The Fettiplaces have been connected with the site. One of the family, Adam de

Oxford, to whom "he gave £120 to make six windows of the north aisle of the said church." About 1435 the site was purchased by Thomas Holden and Elizabeth his wife, and four years later the land was in the possession of Osney Abbey. Previous to this, the Canons of Osney and other members of the Augustinian Order had been allowed to attend the University lectures, but only by favour, and as early as 1421, at a



FREWIN HALL FROM THE SOUTH-WEST, SHOWING THE ALTERATION IN ROOF-LINE MADE BY DR. SHADWELL, AND THE EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY WING.

The crocketed pinnacle in the foreground was removed from the Codrington Library, All Souls.

Fettiplace, was Mayor of Oxford no less than ten times in the latter half of the thirteenth century. Possibly he may have been connected with the great family of the same name who were seated at Swinbrook and Childrey for so many years. At a later period the name of Piers or Peter Bessels was associated with the site. He resided at Besselsleigh, and was High Sheriff of Oxfordshire in 1408, and dying in 1424, was buried in the church of the Preaching Friars, at

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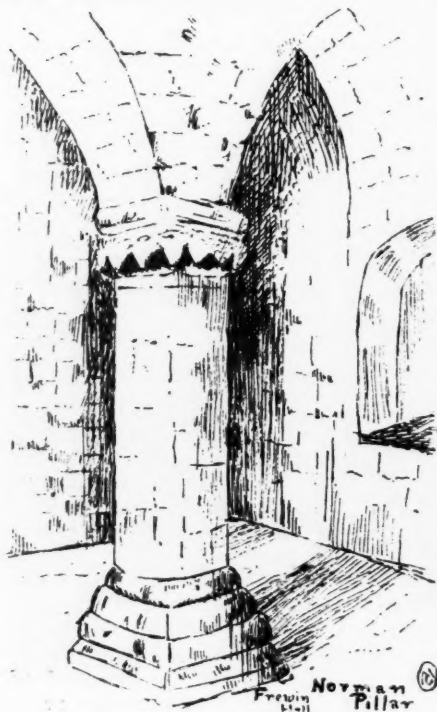
Chapter of the Order held at Leicester, the King had been asked to found a college for the Order in Oxford, but the scheme did not mature. On the acquisition of the site in St. Michael's and St. Peter-in-the-Bailey parishes, however, building operations were at once commenced, the first portion to be erected being, as was customary, the chapel. Apartments for the students and a cloister were subsequently added, but of these the only remains are the gateway in New-Inn-

2 E

Hall-street, and the corbels and vaulting-shafts adjoining, which were probably erected in the latter half of the fifteenth century. The college was dedicated to St. Mary, and was subject to the general Chapter of the Order, and each house was commanded to send and maintain two students. It is interesting to note that Erasmus, when at Oxford in 1497-98, studied and dwelt at

John Rasey, 1528; Thomas Massey, 1532; Jarvis Markham, 1540.

In that year the college was dissolved, and it was possibly on the same date—November 17—that Robert King, last Abbot of Osney and first Bishop of Oxford, surrendered his House to the King. Subsequently the premises appear to have become the property of Christ Church, but that body only retained possession of the site for a brief period. In 1556 the purchase by the city of the building materials of some portion of the college is mentioned in the Council minute-book. At that time one of the most progressive of the Civic Fathers was John Wayte. He must have been a most energetic person, and having been admitted as Hanaster—or member of the merchant guild in 1538—was, in 1551, appointed to "the oversyght of bothe the ffayers." A year later he, with others, was given charge of Port Meadow, was bailiff in 1552, M.P. for the city in 1553, and subsequently became master of the mill; but in 1578 he fell from his high estate, for on July 31 in that year it is written: "Hit ys agreed at this Counsell that from henceforthe Mr. Wayte, whoe hathe taken the priveledge of the Universitie, and for saken to be Justified by the Mayor and Bayliffs of this Towne, shalbe quyte disfraunchesed, and be taken as one not free of this corporation." In 1556, however, Mr. Wayte was in the full plenitude of prosperity, but even then his actions did not always secure the approval of his brethren, for on October 8 in that year it is recorded, "At a Counsaill holden the viij. day of October in the yeres above said, it is agreed and condiscended by the Mayre, Aldermen, Bayles, and Counsaill of the Citie of Oxforde, that the bargayne of tymber and slatte bought by Mr. Wayte in Saynt Mary Colledge, shalbe no bargayne for the body of the Citie." In 1562, however, it is apparent that the city was interested in the site, for on January 27 in that year it is recorded, "Yt ys agreyd at a Cowncell holden the 27 of Januarye, yt Mr. Mayre and Mr. Wood shall goo unto London a bowte the suete of Saynct Mary Colledg." In the same year the following entry occurs in the accounts of John Comber and William Pickover, Chamberlanis Item,



From a drawing by Miss C. Oman.

EARLY NORMAN PIER, WITH TRANSITIONAL ARCH,
IN CRYPT.

St. Mary's College. Pope Benedict XII. decreed that the head of the college should retain office for one year only, but for some reason this rule was disregarded, and during the ninety-eight years of its existence as a college the names of only nine principals have so far been discovered—viz., William Westakarre, 1448; Richard Leycester, 1466; — Ceme, 1467; John Hackborne, 1501; Thomas Beel, 1509; Hugh Whitwick, 1518;

"payd to Ashley for iij. payre of gloves wch Mr. Flaxney carried to my Lord of Huntyngh-ton when he dyd pay for the writyngs of St. Mary College vjs." The same account also contains the following entry, "payd for a brekefast geven to the Presedent of Magdalene Colledg. and to Mr. Westfayllyng, and other, when they gave possession of Saynt Mary College to the Towne for ye use

setting to work of tenne or more poore people having not otherwaies wherwth howe to gett their livynge." The "tenne or more" poor people referred to in the foregoing extract appears to have been generously interpreted, for in 1576 the Town Council resolved, "Yt ys also agreed at thys Counsell that theire shall not be any more putt in Brydewell to be theire founde from hensforth



GATEWAY OF ST. MARY'S COLLEGE (LATE FIFTEENTH CENTURY).

Probably originally a gatehouse. Vaulted on the ground-floor, the remains of the return wall are clearly visible on the left of the picture.

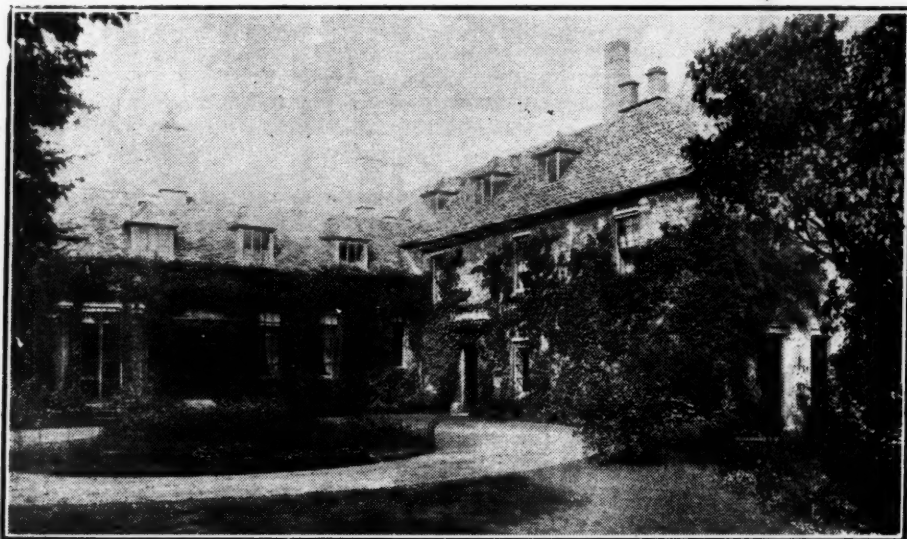
of porepeople vjs. viij." Later the college was granted, on behalf of the city, to a Trust, comprising fourteen prominent citizens, in which they were enjoined to "convert and occupy the said house and hole crypt of the late Colledge commonly called S. Marie's Colledge, for the use and educacon of tenne or moe poore children to be contynually nourished lodged and taught within the said Colledge or house and alsoe to and for the

but by the specyall consent of thys howse." At the same meeting a lease of twenty-one years was granted to Mr. Wayte of "the Church of Brydwell" and the garden there, whilst the "pece of Cloyster of Brydwell" was granted to Mr. Tarleton for twenty-one years at a rental of 2s. per annum. To Mr. Rychard Williams was granted "a leas of the great garden behynde the Brydwell church" for a yearly rental of 26s. 8d. and

another part of the same garden and a "pece of Cloyster was leased to Mr. Barnard Arche . . . for 4s. yearly." Four years later the city appears to have lost possession of the college and its gardens, which reverted to Henry, Earl of Huntingdon, who transferred the college, in exchange for other property, to Brasenose College, the present owners. The circumstances that resulted in the loss of the college to the city have never been definitely ascertained, but it affords only one of the many instances in which valuable property of the citizens has been

in St. Mary-the-Virgin's Church on August 8, 1530—should always be gratefully remembered. But it was not till nearly three centuries later that the humiliating ceremony of St. Scholastica's Day was finally abolished, and the degrading custom of the Vice-Chancellor's confirmation of the Mayor's election lingered on till 1857, when Alderman Isaac Grubb absolutely refused to make the required submission.

About 1580 it is possible that the college buildings had been allowed to become dilapidated, and this feature may have been one



VIEW OF THE EXTERIOR BEFORE GABLES WERE REMOVED.

alienated through lack of care and foresight on the part of the governing body of the town.

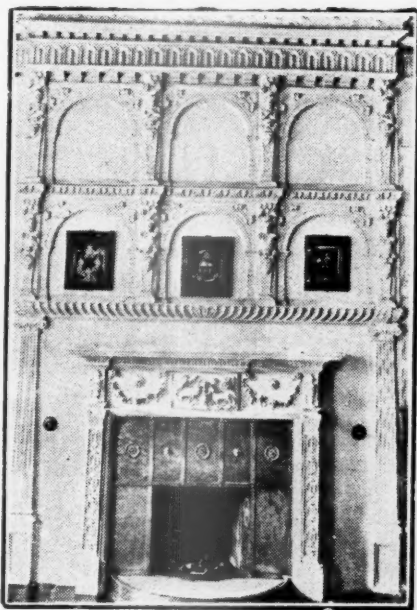
In passing judgment, however, it is only just to point out that, till a comparatively recent period, any citizen who defended the rights of his fellows did so at a very great risk. Previous to the Reformation, the University authorities did not hesitate to use that terrible weapon, excommunication, against any man who thwarted them. But even then patriotic citizens braved the danger, and in this connection the name of Michael Hethe—excommunicated by Dr. Lyndsey

of the causes that led to its loss by the city. In 1582 the site was let to Dr. Griffith Lloyd, an eminent physician, and, as his name implies, of Welsh extraction. To Dr. Lloyd, who, as already stated, had become in 1572 Principal of Jesus College, is owing the existing Elizabethan house, which he erected over, and parallel with, the original crypt. The next occupant of prominence was Dr. Richard Frewin, who was born in London and educated at Westminster and Christ Church, and who attended Dr. Aldrich—the architect of All Saints' Church—on his death-bed. In addition to his eminence as

a physician, he was a distinguished historian, and in 1727 was appointed Camden Professor of History. Having survived his three wives and all his children, he died in 1761, and left his large fortune to charities. Among his numerous benefactions was one of £2,000 in trust for the physicians of the Radcliffe Infirmary. The remainder of the lease of Frewin Hall he devised as an official residence for the Regius Professor of Medicine, the last to occupy the house in that capacity being Dr. Kidd, who, in 1849, removed to St. Giles', and bequeathed his tenement there as a perpetual residence for the Lee's Reader in Anatomy. In 1860-61 the Hall was occupied by King Edward VII., then Prince of Wales, and his tutor, Colonel Bruce. Since then Frewin Hall has been tenanted by Dr. Skene, the friend of Scott; Edward Chapinan, Fellow of Magdalen, and afterwards M.P.; Dr. Shadwell, now Provost of Oriel; and the present occupant, Professor Oman. It should be mentioned that there are portraits of Dr. Frewin in the Hall and Common Room at Christ Church, and also a bust by Roubillac in the Library.

Unlike so many quiet and picturesque houses of the Elizabethan period, Frewin Hall—with one important exception—has happily survived the "restoration" so frequently inflicted on houses of this character in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, when so many beautiful examples of sixteenth-century work were too often tortured to fit the plans demanded by business enterprise. As already stated, Dr. Griffith Lloyd, when erecting the northern wing in 1582, relied on the original foundations for supporting his new work. Nor was his confidence misplaced, as these are in good condition and perfect in every way. The house consisted of two floors, the upper of which was gabled. This necessarily meant lean-to ceilings to the bedrooms, and though this may not be an ideal arrangement for convenience and considerations of health, the substitution of the present straight roof-line, which was carried out during the tenancy of Dr. Shadwell, robbed the house of its picturesque elevation, and entirely altered the character of its upper story. Dr. Shadwell was also responsible for the sundial that surmounts the garden entrance. The prin-

cipal apartment is situated on the southern side of the building, and there is no reason to believe that the main features of this apartment are widely different from what they were in the closing years of the sixteenth century. The ceiling is a remarkably fine example, and is entirely lacking in that superfluity of ornament that is so painfully conspicuous in modern reproductions. Fortunately, too, the sharpness of the various members composing the design is still clear and well-defined. The woodwork of the oak



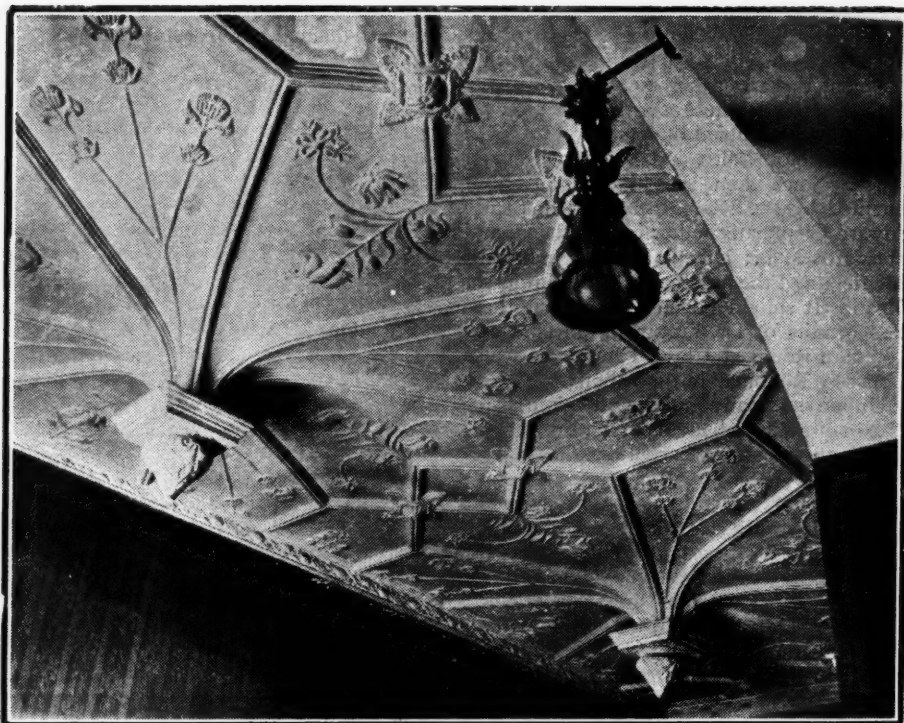
MANTEL AND OVERMANTEL, FREWIN HALL.

overmantel may well belong to the period mentioned, and in addition to the fluted pilasters at each flank consists of a double arcade, richly, but somewhat coarsely, carved, and divided into pairs by four uprights, also profusely ornamented with figures. While seven of these truncated personages are allegorical—"wild men," or "Atlantes"—the eighth, the second in the top row, is a little Elizabethan gentleman in doublet and ruff, perhaps Dr. Griffith Lloyd himself. The mantel itself is very much later in character, and belongs to the first quarter

of the eighteenth century. The carving, though not of the highest type, is well and boldly executed, the figure-work and wreaths immediately under the shelf conspicuously so. The former represents the fable of the "Stork and Fox." The oak panelling fits the room, and therefore probably occupies its original position. Over a portion of the hall is a ceiling, almost identical in design

building. This consisted of a large wing added by Dr. Frewin, the then occupant, at right angles to the original house, which therefrom took the form of the letter L inverted.

To Frewin's wing Dr. Shadwell added a doorway similar in character to that in the garden front of Dr. Lloyd's work. The lintel bears the following chronogram, which, like



SECTION OF CEILING IN HALL, FREWIN HALL.

with that in the room already described, the only difference being that the pendants in the hall ceiling are lacking in the room. From the hall a staircase leads to the bedroom used by King Edward VII. when at Oxford, 1860-61, his occupancy of this somewhat modest apartment being due to the then-existing low ceilings and dormer windows of the other bedrooms in the house. In the first quarter of the eighteenth century an important addition was made to the

that on the Rhodes Tower at Oriel, indicates the date of its erection :

FREVVINI CAROLVS LAETAT
SHADVVELLIVS AVLAM

The practice of decorating buildings in this manner is not free from objection, and if it were followed to any considerable extent the result would be appalling. Frewin's work is substantially built, and all the apartments are well panelled in the style of the time,

but eighteenth-century buildings are rarely interesting or inspiring, and this section of Frewin Hall is no exception to the rule. To



the same period as the new wing belongs a little classical doorway opening into the garden, which has been attached to the Elizabethan house front of the oldest part



Gateway 1666
Frewin Hall.

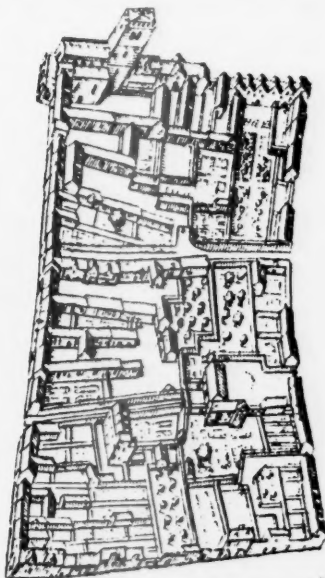
From a drawing by Miss D. Oman.

of the building. It is inoffensive, if a little incongruous in its surroundings.

THE GARDEN.

Not the least of the many pleasing features associated with Frewin Hall is the beautiful garden. This is of considerable magnitude,

and though the shape is somewhat irregular, the boundary has not been altered since the sixteenth century, as both Agas and Loggan define the garden as it exists at the present time. It would be interesting to know the exact position of the cloisters, and also if they consisted of four "walks" or only half that number. But however this



SECTION FROM LOGGAN'S PLAN OF OXFORD,
DRAWN IN 1675.

The block illustrated is that bounded by Queen Street, Cornmarket, New-Inn-Hall Street, and what is now known as St. Michael Street. At the left top corner is shown the old Church of St. Martin (Carfax), the tower of which (restored) still remains. The site now covered by the Clarendon Hotel is represented as being occupied by three long buildings, which were possibly stables and outbuildings attached to the "Star." Frewin Hall, with its garden, is immediately to the right of these. The plan clearly indicates that in building the eighteenth-century wing Dr. Frewin displaced, or very largely modified, a structure that already existed on the same site. What is now the Union Society premises appears to have been occupied by a lofty house, to which was attached a large garden.

may have been, late in the sixteenth century the cloisters were let in "peces" to a number of tenants, and this would indicate that they were of considerable dimensions. Tradition associates the position of the chapel with that portion of the garden immediately to the south of the wing added by Dr. Frewin, and on this site there is at present a collection of

fragments that represent almost every phase of pointed architecture. Among these is a section of zig-zag moulding that probably formed part of the original structure. Portions of shafts and window-heads also remain, and though there is nothing definite to connect these with the adjoining buildings, the presumptive evidence is strongly in that direction. Allusion has already been made to the brief period—about forty years—during which the property belonged to the city, and also to the state of ruin into which the building was allowed to fall during the comparatively few years between 1536 and 1580. Possibly in no part of the fabric is this feature more manifest than in the walling of the gatehouse in New-Inn-Hall Street. On the south a portion of the vaulting-arches and corbels still remain, but on the north every vestige of these has disappeared. Possibly the building still remaining was erected or adapted by the civic authorities to provide the school "for tenne pore" children, or for the reception of the impecunious relatives of the members of the Town Council. The note in the minute of January 19, 1576, strongly points to the latter theory.



Chicksand Priory, Bedfordshire, before the Dissolution.

BY R. A. H. UNTHANK.

(Concluded from p. 142.)

FROM passably fat the history falls to very lean years. For seven years, 1315-1321, England was in terrible distress from famine, cattle murrain, and, on one occasion, "a general earthquake with great sound and much noise." Rains brought floods, floods destroyed crops, dearth brought pestilence, and pestilence mortality. Great numbers of the poor folk died. To support their members the resources of the religious communities were heavily taxed; to find besides their wonted alms was next to impossible. Neither could the brothers and sisters scatter to sister convents. All alike

were affected. The prior of Chicksand in his extremity borrowed of the Italian merchants who came to England to collect the Pope's dues, as well as to trade on their own behalf. And veritable Rehoboams these merchants were in usury, compared even with Jews—60 per centum of interest being no uncommon demand. In four years the prior's debt to the brothers Francisci increased from £120 to 400 marks, irrespective of any possible paying off of the principal. The steadily accumulating debt the prior appears to have tried to repudiate by fraud, asseverating the loan's repayment. Whereupon the case was brought before the King's itinerant justices at Bedford, Brother John de Leccheworth, the prior's fellow-canon, and William de Horblyng, appearing as the prior's proxies. Unfortunately for prior John's good name, it was shown that he had falsely sworn to the acquittance, and, moreover, had bribed a certain Ralph, son of Richard, 100 shillings to maintain them in the false plaint.

But the Chicksand community had not done with Puisaquila yet, for he was also the lessee for life of the convent's "manor of Wolverton, and all its appurtenances, free of all service"; the lease stated further that Puisaquila agreed to keep it in repair, and Chicksand was to supply the necessary timber.

In 1327 the Blundel family were again good Samaritans to the embarrassed convent. John and his wife Matilda gave two messuages and lands in Campton of the yearly value of 16s. 4d., while Robert de Flamville, who, by his frequent association with the Blundels, seems to have been related to them, conveyed to the priory a yearly rent of 77s. 6d. in Haynes. A loan of £35 was also granted to the prior by Matilda, which was not repaid for eleven years. The witnesses to the acquittance of the same were Robert de Flamville, Henry de Flamville, and Robert Blundel. The last named (who was also a benefactor to the priory of Dunstable, in the south-western corner of the county), in 1347, in concert with John, the Vicar of Haynes (probably he who was before "parson of the church of Clifton," and son of the donor of the manor, who now by favour had won the vicarage of Haynes in the convent's gift), bequeathed forty-two acres of land, two acres

of meadow, and 6d. of rent in Mepershall, amounting in value to 10s. a year.

We must now go back two or three years—namely, to 1322. In that year the convent's London property—property which must have been left to them anterior to the 1291 "taxation"—to wit, tenements in the adjacent parishes of St. Mary de Colcherche, St. Stephen le Colemanstrete, and St. Mildred in the Poultry, to the value of £16 a year—were leased out for a term of forty years. This property thirty years before was worth £9 6s. 8d., so we have no need to refer to Besant to see the great appreciation in the value of property in the heart of the City at that period. The tenements together were held for life by a certain Simon le Foundour, but the chief ownership was now mortgaged to Master Roger de la Beere, clerk, for a term, as we have said, of forty years. On payment of £180 by the prior of Chicksand the covenant was to be annulled. John de Stotfold was the convent's cellarer at this time, as appears by the deed; the mention of whom reminds us of the importance of that obedientiary's presence, as well as the witness of the scrutator, in all property and large commercial transactions.

The escape of Roger, Lord Mortimer, from the Tower of London, with his family, caused Edward II. to alter his plans for Mortimer's wife's and two daughters' confinement. He now placed them in the retirement of Gilbertine convents. Isabel Mortimer was consigned to Chicksand, for which safe-conduct was granted to the sheriff of Southampton until he should bring her thither, and 2s. a day was allowed to the lady for the expenses of her journey. For Isabel's maintenance at Chicksand 12d. a week was receivable from the King's treasurer, and "a mark yearly at Michaelmas for her robe." Doubtless the nuns looked well after their gentle charge, but it was a foul deed that brought her and her mother and sister freedom again.

The tale of debts and mortgages makes wearisome reading, but they must have caused the canons and nuns an almost endless round of anxiety. In 1325 a Genoese merchant acknowledged a debt of £26 13s. to the prior, but before the year was out the tables were turned, and John de Puisaquila sat on the creditor's side for a sum

of 400 marks. The figures of the debt and the date tally so significantly with the Lucchese merchant's suit against the priory that it seems to suggest that it was a loan raised on purpose to acquit themselves of the affair in which their dishonesty had been so cleverly and unexpectedly exposed. The same year saw them further bound to Puisaquila and his partner Bartholomew Richi in 3,300 florins of gold, through which the priory was obliged to demise their manor of St. Thomas's Chapel in Mepershall, and the grange of Haynes, for £200 a year, for the lives of John and Bartholomew and to their heirs, executors, or assigns, for twenty years after their deaths. Besides this the prior and convent granted to them "the fruits of their church of Hawens for seven years, and sold to them their woods Appelee and Inwood," retaining the soil thereof. In consideration whereof "if the prior and convent pay to the said Bartholomew and John £1,200 at certain days and places, then the deeds of demise" of all "shall be annulled, and that they shall be excluded from all action against the said prior and convent." Shortly following, the prior, on behalf of the convent, paid £300, "a quarter of the aforesaid debt," for which sum John de Puisaquila released them "from all his debts for which he might have action against them."

The common custom in early days of seeking confirmation of grants from the heirs of kings and patrons on their succession was very necessary to preserve the validity of title. In 1330 neglect of this precaution nearly cost the convent loss both of free warren and the view of frankpledge, or a substantial fine to the Crown to buy the privileges back. The presentation of the original charters and the evidence of continuous exercise, however, saved the priory on payment of one mark.

What the precise havoc wrought by the Black Death was no record remains to show: we can but compare with the extent of disaster which other monasteries suffered. Miss Graham thinks "it is probable that at least half of its members" (*i.e.*, of the Gilbertine Order) "perished, and novices were not forthcoming to fill the empty places. None of the monastic Orders ever recovered their full numbers or their spiritual efficiency."

If there were fewer mouths to be filled, there was likewise immeasurably less wherewith to fill them. The sheepfolds* were depleted, and the few labourers remaining commanded enormously increased wages; while again, on the one hand, the price of agricultural products, including wool—the Gilbertines' chief source of support—remained fixed, on the other "all the ordinary articles needed for agriculture, such as wheels, nails, and millstones, were doubled in value."

The plight of Chicksand must in the midst of it have been extreme, for constantly since 1330 the prior and canons had been praying the King for respite from tenths on account of "all their manors, lands, rents and churches being in the hands of creditors, whereby they were so greatly impoverished that they had not whereof they might be sustained, and many of the canons and nuns had been dispersed by the prior for that reason." In 1330 they were pardoned altogether, in 1331 released £10 of £17 9s. 7d., in 1335 £5 16s. of £9 8s., for the second half-year in 1337 pardoned all the tenth, namely £18 6s. 0½d., and the same again in 1338, 1345, and 1356.

In the last-named year Adam de Pulhangre bequeathed "four messuages in Shesford" of the annual value of 10s., for which the convent had obtained the inevitable licence to alienate. Some doubt, however, is cast five years afterwards upon whether they gathered home all the bequest, or it was another messuage which figured in a dispute at law. The prior was alleged to have taken the last, "which was of John de Euere" of Adam de Pulhangre *without licence*, the property consequently then reposing in the escheator's close fist. The issue of the suit restored the messuage to the claimants, Thomas Breton and Cicely his wife, and proved that "the prior did not appropriate the said messuage nor ever had any estate therein, but was of the right of Cicely as of the gift of John to her made in fee while she was single." Badly as the convent needed help after the difficulties of the Black Death, no more benefactions were made to it during all the remaining 180 years to the Dissolution. The rich required all their diminished substance to keep

themselves; indifference to religion was growing, and, above all, the Wars of the Roses were about to break upon the land.

In the midst of trouble the Gilbertines' Hall of St. Edmund at Cambridge for their students, which had belonged to them since 1291, was burnt down (1348). How many scholars Chicksand sent we do not know, but the priory contributed 16s. annually towards the hostel's maintenance right up to the Dissolution, a similar "pension" being made by all the other large houses of the Order. Let it here be mentioned that the Gilbertines did not admit pupils into their cloisters except they were intending to train for the monastic life.

Some idea is afforded in 1359 of the terms upon which a lady was receivable into the convent: Alice, the wife of Sir Richard of Bayouse, paid to the prioress 13s. 4d. a year for her sister Margaret to be at Chicksand, which, translated into current value, would mean about 5s. a week inclusive—a very moderate sum to all appearance when clothes and pocket-money for almsgiving are taken into account. Other gentlewomen who wore the veil at Chicksand at one time or another were Margery, the youngest daughter of de Burgo the younger, who held lands in six different counties (1279), and Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Chamberleyn, Knight of Cotes, 1391.* Nuns possibly, too, were some of the ladies de l'Isle—John de l'Isle was prior from 1316 to 1325—whose father, Robert, left an illuminated calendar in 1339,† "à tous jours à les dames de Chikessand," after the deaths of his daughters. The de l'Isles' principal manor was in the neighbouring township of Shefford, but their wealth of lands lay as widespread as the Isle of Wight.

In 1377 a poll-tax of 12d. was levied on, amongst other ecclesiastics, every prior and prioress, canon and nun, the mendicant friars alone excepted. This was another burden for the little community; even those obtaining the first tonsure exceeding the age of fourteen years could not escape their contribution of 4d.

In 1385 an event happened which is sure to have been productive of much internal

* One sheepcote at Clophill was rented in 1273 for 6d. of Isabella St. Cross (*née d'Albini*).

* Lincoln Wills.

† Arundel MSS., 83, f. 123.

gossip. Beatrice Sheldon, seemingly a ward under the custody of the prior, was abducted by night by Edmund Randolph, Esquire, on Thursday, the Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle. Her would-be guardian—or husband—though pardoned of the consequent outlawry for the misdeed, seems to have been a crafty man, for to obtain delay of suits pending against him he sought to go to Calais in the company of William de Hoo. The King, however, finding out his subtlety, revoked his intended “protection” for the journey. Of what ultimately happened to Randolph or to Beatrice Sheldon we are left uninformed.

Through all the history of the Order there never was a mitred prior, or even Master, with equi-episcopal powers, the humility of the founder and the principles of the Order being opposed to the seeking, if not the acceptance, of dignities. The resentment of the Bishops of Lincoln at not being able to visit the Gilbertine houses in their jurisdiction engendered frequent friction between themselves and the priors, and they even went so far as to refuse their offices in ordaining canons and setting nuns apart. The impasse might have been avoided had the Gilbertines thereupon had recourse to a former grant made to them by Pope Alexander IV., by which “any Catholic prelate” might perform the function; but the Order preferred (in 1396) to seek plenary powers for their Master, and to make him independent of all ecclesiastical authority, save the Pope. Either the bribe that may have accompanied the petition was not sufficient, or the Curia, with more honesty than that with which it has generally been credited, refused “the right to bear the mitre, ring, and pastoral staff, and to consecrate the nuns”; hence, to quote the opposition of John Buckingham, Lincoln’s Bishop (1363-1398), no “prejudice was given to the diocesan, and also other prelates, without comparison greater than the prior, and peers of the realm [who] would disdain to take a lower place in congregations, and at burials of the dead.” Upon Chicksand’s prior, John Bruton, 1388, was conferred the dignity of a “Papal chaplain”—if dignity it can be called, for papal chaplaincies in the prelacy of Urban VI. (1378-89) were in at least fifty

instances sold to obedientia who wished to escape from monastic rule, to augment the funds for carrying on the military campaign against the anti-Pope in Flanders. The office of these chaplains was a sinecure, and their freedom from regular life did but enable them to take up any rich living that was wanting a vicar.

So strict was monastic etiquette, that only by papal licence could a member of one Order transfer himself to another, and even then he had to pass into one “of like or stricter obedience.” In 1423 John Bolyngton, a canon of Chicksand, so obtained leave from Rome to exchange his habit and obedience for that of the black canons of St. Augustine.

“The history of the Order,” to quote Miss Graham, “in the fifteenth century is shrouded in darkness. The entries in the King’s Rolls are very few, and there is no other evidence.” A careful search confirms the truth of this.

Poverty overtook the house again in 1441, with consequent pardon of a moiety of its tenth, a pardon in the previous year being “void because the said moiety was assigned to the Cardinal of England before they sued therefor.” Three years later a grant to the Order—not to Chicksand alone—shows that their plight was growing even worse. They were to be “quit of all tenths, fifteenths, and other subsidies, aids, quotas and contributions and from the levying thereof.” And so the tale continues. The Order was unable to share the patriotic burden of finding men and money any longer for the French wars. In 1445 they were released “from all aids and subsidies for ever,” the last term telling most eloquently of desperate plight. And yet their fortunes had not reached the lowest level, for five years later a liberal Crown pardoned the Order of “all penalties, fines, ransoms, amercements, forfeitures, and all actions, suits, demands, executions, quarrels, and impeachments against them, and all debts, accounts, prests, arrears of farms and accounts due by them.”

An annual grant of £20 from Chicksand “for the King’s personal expenses in France” in 1522 shows the “for ever” in the quittance of 1445 “from all aids and subsidies” to have been mere legal jargon, or else invalidated by

the lapse of time. At any rate, the fortunes of the priory must have improved considerably to have enabled them to answer the call.

Seven years later the prior was summoned to Canterbury Convocation for the Archdeaconry of Bedford, but was not permitted to be represented by proctor, personal attendance being strictly demanded.*

The causes which led to the dissolution of the religious houses are well known: without dwelling upon them, let us consider how the machinery of dissolution affected Chicksand. Dr. Layton was the commissioner appointed, and his intrusion seems to have been much resented. "Wheras they wolde not," says he, "in any wisse have admittede me as a vysiter. I wolde not be so answered, but visitede them." From the "suspicions" of "one old beldame" alone, perchance of a backbiting or over-susceptible disposition, could the inquisitor wring evidence—if such suspicion can be called—of broken vows of chastity. The guiltiness of two nuns, one with the sub-prior, the other with a serving-man, was her allegation, which was in turn refuted by the two accused, the prioresses, and all the sisters, with the most emphatic assurance of their innocence. But Layton refused to be convinced, although he, in addition, noticed the nuns to be "strictly enclosed," and sent in his report to the Court of Augmentations accordingly.

In due course the priory came to be suppressed, the prior being given the choice of "voluntary" surrender and a pension or refusal and gibbeting on the tree beside the priory gate. The annual revenues, which then stood at £212 3s. 5½d. clear, were appropriated to the King's exchequer. Five years intervened between the subscription and the actual surrender of the priory, which took place on the October 22, 1539. When the fateful day arrived there went, thrust forth into the world again, a prior, sub-prior, and prioress, six canons, and seventeen nuns, besides lay brothers and sisters, their home left to be spoiled of the despoiler. The fabrics of the vestments were in most instances the perquisites of the hired vandals,

the silver ornaments and vessels were sent to London to be melted down, the lead was stripped from the roofs, and the bells went into the crucible for gun-metal.

For the prior, John Orrey, there was a pension of £30 a year for life, and an allowance for a new suit of clerical clothes to enable him to help the world to forget the inglorious extinction of monastic life. The canons received annuities of £2 each with clothing allowance, and those who had held responsible office in the house, such as confessor, cellarer, and other, were granted slightly more. The nuns received upwards of two marks, according to their age or seniority, but the prioresses—two only named—were forced to content themselves with £3 6s. 8d. apiece, the lay brothers and sisters being turned adrift with only their trades to help them. We may as well enumerate the names of those who only left the ship as she was about to plunge beneath the waves: John Orrey, prior; John Whytte, confessor; Thomas Crosdall, Percival Symson, Robert Harryson, Miles Gyll, and Peter Husbond, canons; Margaret Burton and Margaret Graunger, prioresses; Avicia Mershall, Margaret Spenser, Isabel Sheffield, Margaret Pulley, Margaret Graye, Joan Pulley, Isabel Lamkyne, Sibilla Nowies, Margaret Woodyll, Margaret Gybbott, Agnes Rayley, Alice Spenser, Margaret Neyler, Alice Clerke, Elizabeth Hunkyll, and Anne Hyll, nuns. The accession of Queen Mary found the majority of them still drawing their pensions, and two new male annuitants added, for instance:

Percival Sampson	£4
Peter Goodhusbond,* Miles Gylle, Thomas Coresdale, and Robert Harrison	
John Gostwick and John Colbeck	£3 6s. 8d. each.
Margaret Graynger	£2 each.
Avice Marshall, Margaret Odell, Isabell Lamkyn, Margaret Chybbot, and Margaret Pulley	£3 6s. 8d.
Alice Clarke and Anne Hill	£2 each.
	£1 6s. 8d. each.

* This can scarcely be the first time, however, that the priors were summoned to Convocation, but the first and only instance mentioned in the Close Rolls.

* Note the prefixed syllable to Peter Husbond's surname, acquired since 1539. His vow of obedience seems rather to suggest transference to a wife!

The house, site, church, steeple, churchyard, and tithes were all sold, as we have previously seen, and for a time the church was allowed to remain, since it was the only place of worship for the parish. But population dwindling—the parish now numbers less than seventy souls—the church was demolished, though when seems to have been forgotten, but its last mention on parchment was in 1592. The benefice is now united to Campton. At the 1291 taxation the rectory was returned as only worth £2 13s. 4d. The grange and farm of Haynes were noted in "the inventory" which Wolsey bade Cromwell take, in the first bitter hour of his fall: "There, take an inventory of all I have, to the last penny; 'tis the King's." How Cardinal Wolsey came by the property is not plain, but it was certainly found in his enjoyment on his attain.

Neither the title we have chosen for this paper, nor the space at our disposal, will allow the subsequent history of the priory to be given. Since 1576 it has belonged, through purchase, to the Osborn family, whose history, posterior to their settlement at Chicksand, would, to do it justice, require the limits of a small volume to itself.

The list of priors, by no means complete, we give as in the *Victoria County History*, save with the addition of John de Camelton and John Orrey:

- G— occurs 1186.*
- Walter occurs 1204-5 and 1209-1210.
- Simon occurs 1224.
- Thomas occurs 1240.
- Hugh occurs 1245.
- William de Hugate occurs 1309.
- John de Camelton occurs 1322.
- Simon occurs 1325.
- John de l'Isle occurs 1316, 1324-25.
- John Bruton occurs 1388.
- Ralf occurs 1409.
- Stephen occurs 1473.
- John Atoun occurs 1481 and 1493.
- John Spencer occurs 1529 and 1535.†
- John Plomer occurs 1538.
- John Orrey occurs 1539.

* His priorate is doubtful.

† "1535. 1st June—to Lord Chancellor Cromwell—Sir Francis Bryan, Commissioner of Tenths, and of Inquisition, for Beds, learnt at his coming into

It will be noticed that there is an overlapping of some of the dates of the priorates; conjecture alone can be called in to explain the circumstance. Of the prioresses, in all the 400 years of discreet and sober matrons, three only have allowed their names to be handed down to us:

Emma occurs 1482.
Margaret Burton } occur 1538.
Margaret Graynger }

Before closing, a word must be said about the convent seals, of which four are known. That appended to the deed of surrender is bright red, and represents the Annunciation, the angel kneeling and holding a cross before Our Lady, each under a canopy, while a third figure kneels below. The inscription (broken) runs: "S. CONVE . . . CHIKESAND AD CAVSAS." Another seal, with a device of the Annunciation, again supplies the missing portion of the inscription of the first: "s' CONVENTVS SÇE MARIE DE CHIKESAND AD CAVSAS." The third seal, a small one, depicts the Blessed Virgin with the Holy Child, and another figure on the right—perchance the Holy Family; but the inscription is all worn away save the single letter E. The fourth seal shows Our Lady crowned, with the Holy Child, a canon and a nun kneeling right and left in an attitude of prayer.

The canon's buildings were the first to be demolished; the nuns' remain, with little internal alteration, as they left them, but Ware and Wyatt were each employed in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries to make liberal alterations to the original thirteenth-century face of them. The steep chestnut roofs of the old priory still remain, as also the vaulted, double-bayed cloisters on the south and part of the west of the quadrangle, relics of the once continuous square, round which the nuns and canons made their solemn processions on the greater feast-days of the Church. The library, private oratory, laundry, and stores now occupy this remnant of the vaulted walk. The arrangement of the stories over has likewise been entirely altered. The large quadrangle with

the country [the King's palace of Amptill] that the prior of Chicksand is deceased, and desires to have preferment of next prior."

the cloisters measured 64 feet by $51\frac{1}{2}$ feet; the smaller one is believed to have stood to the north, separated from the nuns' apartments by the intervening church. The burial-ground has been located by the discovery of coffins, bones, broken glass, and pottery, to the east of the great cloister.

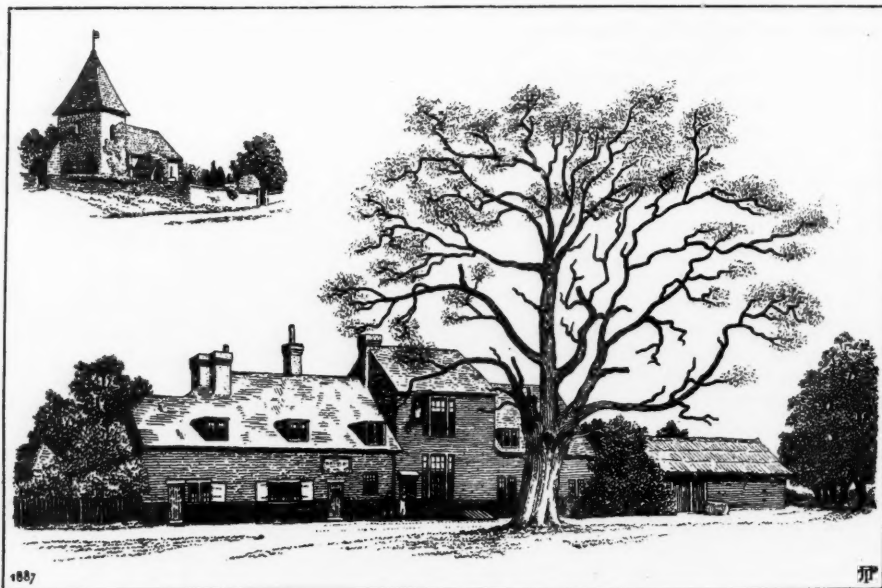
While endeavour has been made to give in the foregoing paper as much new detail of the history of the priory as possible, without unduly traversing what has been already written, there are abundant references still left behind in the public archives, the records

The Antiquary's Note-Book.

THE OLD SWAN OF WEST
PECKHAM, KENT.



HE public-house "boom" of a few years ago, which caused so much financial loss to speculators in brewery shares, also wrought irretrievable ruin among the picturesque wayside inns of the country. The half-timber houses with their gabled fronts gave place to



THE CHURCH, THE SWAN AND THE WALNUT-TREE
OF WEST PECKHAM
KENT

of tenures and tenants, trivial disputes in the Hundred and King's Courts, payments into the Treasury and Exchequer, and so on, which could only be properly utilized with greater facility of space than is afforded by a magazine. For the history of the Order in general, Miss Rosa Graham's *St. Gilbert of Sempringham and the Gilbertines* is of surpassing interest and value, while the *Victoria County History of Bedfordshire* briefly but well relates the history of the Priory in particular.



smug hotels and red-brick gin-palaces, which too often reflect in their plate-glass windows, across a railed-in and regulated "green," some over-restored and new-looking ancient church; and thus, instead of "the charm of the English village," we have the vulgarity of a London "pub" grouped with the garishness of a modern conventicle in a suburban garden. Although the sequestered Kentish parish of West Peckham has not escaped the general ruin, it has suffered less, both in loss and substitution, than many others. But in one particular its ruin has been more complete; and to appreciate the

measure of the damage it has sustained, we must shortly describe the place as it existed towards the end of the last century, and more particularly the part of it shown in our sketches.

The little scattered village of West Peckham lies along the tumbled face of the lower-greensand escarpment which looks southward over the Weald of Kent, under the shadow of the Great Comp and Mereworth Woods, which were, down to the reign of Queen Elizabeth, famous for their wild swine, and even now retain much of their ancient forest character. The nucleus of the village consists of the church, the Swan Inn, a few cottages, and a range of timber buildings known as "Ducks' Place," now divided into small dwellings, which marks the site, and may incorporate some remains of a Preceptory of the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, founded in 1408 by John Culpeper, a Justice of the Common Pleas. The church itself is a small structure of no very great interest, and consists of a western tower of, perhaps, eleventh-century work, a nave with north aisle, a chancel with north chapel, and a south porch, all of much later date than the tower. There is no chancel arch, but the upper and lower doors to a rood-loft remain, and the north chapel has been fitted up as a family pew with some rather good Jacobean woodwork, and is used by the Geary family of Oxenhoath. The western wall of the churchyard abuts on a large open rectangular space or green, and in a line southward of it was the front of the old Swan Inn, the weather-boarded face of which was picturesque rather for its dilapidation than for any inherent beauty of outline or detail. It was, however, a much patched and altered venerable structure, and it seems a pity that the exigencies of business or the demands of fashion compelled its removal.

The Green, or "Sporting Place," as it is locally named, was used for the annual Whit-Thursday Fair, and has now fallen under the control of the Parish Council. On it, in front of the Swan, stood the great parish walnut-tree; but, unfortunately, this chief ornament of the green has been destroyed, for it grew to be so dilapidated

through old age as to become dangerous, and had to be cut down. As the nuts it produced were common property, it was, perhaps, no one's duty to attend to the threshing of it, and a sparing of the rod led to the spoiling of the tree, according to the well-known adage as set forth by old John Ray—

*Nux, asinus, mulier simili sunt lege ligata ;
Hæc tria nil fructus faciunt, si verbera cessant.*

J. TAVENOR PERRY.



At the Sign of the Owl.



IN connection with the Shakespeare Commemoration arranged by the London Shakespeare League and the Shakespeare Reading Society, an interesting exhibition of original documents of Shakespearean interest took place at the Record Office, Chancery Lane, on Saturday, April 19.

This had been arranged by Dr. William Martin, who, with the co-operation of the Lord Chamberlain, Mrs. More Molyneux McCowan, and the Society of Antiquaries, had brought together twenty-six documents, letters, and records bearing on Shakespeare's life and work in London. The visit was made additionally interesting by an admirable catalogue, specially prepared for the occasion by Dr. Martin. In a lengthy commentary on the documents, he pointed out that although London can boast of no baptismal entry or registration of burial, we treasure documents which, with pardonable pride, may claim to be truly representative of Shakespeare. In the year 1594 the first record in the Pipe Office shows the payment made to Shakespeare and his colleagues, Kemp and Richard Burbage, for performing before Queen Elizabeth at Greenwich "twoe severall comedies or interludes in Christmas time."

As regards residence in London five documents were shown which point to the poet

having lived in St. Helen's, Bishopsgate, in 1596, and earlier, and to have removed subsequently to the Liberty of the Clink, Bankside. In the thirty-fifth year of Elizabeth, November 17, 1592, to November 16, 1593, three subsidies were granted to the Crown. When the second payment in respect of the last of the three subsidies was demanded on or before February, 1597, a William Shakespeare, of St. Helen's, Bishopsgate, was named in the Collector's affidavit as a defaulter in respect of 5s. on goods of the value of £5. By following up the defaulters there is to be found in the Pipe Roll, 41, Elizabeth, Residuum, Sussex, the entry, "William Shakespeare, in the parish of St. Helen, 13s. 4d., of the whole subsidy aforesaid granted in the said 39th year, which is required upon the same roll there." Against the name of Shakespeare are the words "Epo Winton," indicating that the Sheriff was to apply for payment to the Bishop of Winchester, the Clink, in Southwark, where the Play-houses and Bear-gardens were situate, being a Liberty of his. It is clear that the debt was satisfied, as the Bishop accounts for the money in the Pipe Roll of the following year, and Shakespeare's name is not mentioned.

Another document on view, indicating the length of Shakespeare's residence in London, was the enrolment, March 11, 1612-13, of the conveyance of the house in Blackfriars from Henry Walker to Shakespeare. On a further document also shown, Shakespeare's name stands first as receiving, with others, "4½ yards of skarlet red cloth for the procession of James I. when visiting London." Viewing the documents as a whole, regret was expressed by Dr. Martin that Shakespeare Societies have not hitherto collaborated to produce an authoritative work containing the available evidence in our midst for the facts of Shakespeare's career. A comprehensive volume on the lines of Lambert's *Carta Shakespeareana* is much to be desired for checking the many assertions concerning the poet and his work.

The third portion of the Huth Library, including letters E to H, will be sold by Messrs. Sotheby on nine days, beginning June 2. The catalogue of about 500 pages

contains some 1,335 entries. There is but one Caxton-Gower's *Confessio Amantis*, 1493, of which fifteen leaves are in facsimile. Blades records five perfect copies only. The number of Wynkyn de Worde is considerable. Among them may be named *A Lytell Booke of Good Maners for Chyl dren*, 1532, Higden's *Polychronicon*, 1495, Fisher's *Funeral Sermon on Henry VII.*, 1509, and the *Fruyte of Redempcyon*, an undescribed edition of 1530. The *St. Albans Chronicle* of 1483 (on vellum) represents the St. Albans Press. There are many books under the headings of Erasmus, Evelyn, Fielding, Fletcher, Ford, Goldsmith, Holbein, and other well-known seventeenth and eighteenth century names. The *Horæ* are numerous—more than forty in all—twenty-two of them illuminated.

A great many rare pamphlets and plays are included. Items of this kind, indeed, are among the most important features of the collection. The following are a few of the rare treasures: *The Boke of Mayd Emlyn* (c. 1530) is a unique and perfect copy, formerly in the Caldicott and Daniel Libraries. This tract was reprinted for the Roxburghe Club and for the Percy Society. Unique also are *Four Leaves of Truelove* (Wynkyn de Worde); *Cold Doings in London, except it be at the Loterie*, 1608; *Fructus Temporum*; *Quippes for Upstart Newfangled Gentlewomen*, 1595, claimed by Stephen Gosson; *Mulierum Pean*, by Edward Gosynhill (in this undated edition); Stephen Hawes's *Convercyon of Swerers* (edition c. 1540); and a volume on *Hawking* (Augsburg), 1497. An Almanack of Thomas Hill's for 1571 has blank pages for a diary, and these and all other available spaces are covered with interesting notes by some former owner, who used it as a commonplace book. The first edition of Froissart in English, by Pynson, 1523-1525, bears the autograph of Jane, Countess of Southampton.

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Trustees of Shakespeare's Birthplace at Stratford on May 6, Sir Sidney Lee announced that an American visitor, Mr. Cooper-Prichard, of New York, had promised to complete at his expense the specimens in

New Place Museum of the coins mentioned in Shakespeare's plays or in use in the country in the dramatist's day. Referring to the Royal Commission on Public Records, of which he was a member, Sir Sidney said that probably the most exacting and difficult of all the functions of the Commission would be to report on public records in local or private custody. That field seemed limitless, but for the Birthplace Trustees it was peculiarly promising. A thorough survey of local archives ought at any rate to bring to light some new Shakespearean clues. In that branch of inquiry local voluntary effort was especially to be desired, to supplement public central effort. He wished a great archæological society would arise in Warwickshire, thoroughly to catalogue and to co-ordinate all extant records bearing on county affairs through the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

The catalogues issued by Mr. P. M. Barnard, M.A., of Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells, are always of interest and value to book-lovers and bibliographers. One of the last I have received lists a collection of rare and valuable Spanish books, including a few rare incunabula. Mr. Barnard's annotations are much to the point, and often contain matter of bibliographical interest beyond the subject of the book immediately dealt with. In the description of a Spanish translation of *Quintus Curtius*, printed by Juan Cromberger in folio at Seville, January, 1534, Mr. Barnard notes: "Juan Cromberger introduced printing into America. Although there is no evidence that he himself ever crossed the Atlantic, in 1539 he sent some of his staff to Mexico with necessary materials for establishing a press, and the books they printed are said to be printed *en casa de Juan Cromberger*." Mr. Barnard's bibliographical notes to his books are valuable, and the catalogue should not be missed by amateurs of early Spanish printed books.

At the annual meeting of the Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies, held in the rooms of the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, on April 29, Professor F. Haverfield in the chair, Mr. J. W. Mackail read a paper on "Virgil and Roman Studies," in VOL. IX.

which he pleaded for a re-interpretation of Virgil in the light of history and archæology, and quoted from the *Georgics* and the *Æneid* in support of his suggestion. It was only during the last generation, he said, that Virgil had been recognized as an interpreter of Roman history. His poetry illustrated the new methods of historians and archæologists. Half a century ago the commentator of Virgil was content to treat the whole thing as a matter of book-learning. But anyone approaching the same task now would have to utilize the whole armament of Roman study. Virgil was no longer studied as mere literature. At every point his work threw light on Roman studies.

Sir James Murray has informed an interviewer: "I have got to the stage when I can estimate the end. In all human probability the *Oxford Dictionary* will be finished on my eightieth birthday, four years from now." It was in April, 1879, that Dr. Murray made a start on the materials collected by the Philological Society.

The *Times* of May 13 printed the first detailed account of the new manuscript of the Gospels discovered in Egypt and bought by Mr. C. L. Freer, and now in Washington. A facsimile has been produced by Mr. Freer's direction, and a copy has been presented to the British Museum by the University of Michigan. The manuscript is described, said the *Times*, "as one of the most valuable and ancient versions of the New Testament in Greek.

"It dates either from the fourth or the fifth century, and provides Biblical scholars with much important new material, particularly on the texts of St. John and St. Luke.

"The text of chapter xvi. of St. Mark's Gospel contains, after verse 14, some verses which occur in no other manuscript of the New Testament, and include as the words of Christ:

"The limit of the years of the power of Satan is (not) fulfilled, but it draweth near: for the sake of those that have sinned was I given up unto death, that they may return unto the truth and sin no more, but may inherit the spiritual and incorruptible glory of righteousness in heaven."

For a full account of this important text I

must refer readers to the *Times* of May 13 and 14. In the latter issue a facsimile was given of the page of the manuscript in which occurs the new saying of Christ.

BIBLIOTHECARY.



Antiquarian News.

[We shall be glad to receive information from our readers for insertion under this heading.]

PROCEEDINGS OF ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETIES.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—April 17.—Sir Hercules Read, President, in the chair.—Mr. Laurence Weaver exhibited a leaden bust of Queen Elizabeth, which, except for some trivial differences, is a replica of the upper part of the figure of the Queen on her tomb at Westminster Abbey. The tomb was made by Maximilian Colte, and the question is whether the lead bust is the model from which the artist worked for the tomb, or whether it is a copy made at some later date from the marble. On the whole, the author was in favour of the former assumption.

Mr. Philip Newman exhibited a painted board with the arms of Queen Elizabeth, from Green's Norton Church, Towcester; and Dr. Cock an iron skillet of the eighteenth century used for making rushlights.

Mr. Reginald Smith and Mr. Henry Dewey read a paper on "Stratification at Swanscombe," being the report of excavations undertaken by the British Museum and the Geological Survey. The site is about midway between Dartford and Gravesend, on the south bank of the Thames, and has yielded abundant palæolithic implements, which come from the deposits above the chalk, the latter reaching a height of about 90 feet O.D. The gravel occurs in large patches, and includes the well-known Galley Hill deposit in the immediate vicinity. It is practically horizontal in the Lower Thames Valley, and is generally called the 100-foot terrace.

As the systematic examination of these Pleistocene deposits was important for the chronology of stone implements as well as for the geological history of the district, the authorities of the British Museum and the Geological Survey co-operated last spring, and hope to continue the work of excavation this year. With the willing assistance of the Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers, proprietors of the Milton Street or Barnfield Pit, special excavations were made under personal supervision, and various types of implements found undisturbed in their original beds. As the stratification is exceptionally clear, a type sequence can now be established, at least for the lower horizons of the terrace; and the majority of implements may be shown to come from a particular band of gravel. As usual, the fauna was poorly represented; but what was found agrees as closely as the implements with the discoveries of Professor Commont at Amiens and Abbeville.

Specimens from the various strata, and certain types of implements not yet traced to their original deposits, were shown in illustration of the paper, together with photographic sections and geological diagrams relating to the Lower Thames Valley and the River Somme. The site excavated is an exceptionally favourable one, as the earliest palæolithic period seems to be completely represented. The principal flint-types would be assigned abroad to the Chelles group, and the lowest gravel yields a pre-Chelles industry, the corresponding fauna being apparently represented on a site adjoining the Barnfield Pit. Other excavations in the neighbourhood have thrown some light on the later horizons of the terrace-gravel, but redistribution of the material has obscured the succession of the beds and associated implements.

In the discussion which followed the President explained the scheme of collaboration between the Museum and the Survey; and Messrs. Strahan, Lamplugh, Bromehead, Warren, Dale, Kennard, Kendall, Johnson, and Leach spoke on various points raised by the paper.—*Athenæum*, April 26.



The papers read at the meeting of the ROYAL ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE on May 7 were on "Some Alabaster Panels at Lydiat, Lanes, depicting the Martyrdom of St. Catherine," and "Some Mediæval Painted Glass," by Dr. Philip Nelson; and "Some Fonts made by Nicholas Stone," and "Additional Notes on Fonts Sculptured with the Seven Sacraments," by Dr. A. C. Fryer.



The monthly meeting of the SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND was held on April 14. The Right Rev. the Bishop of Ossory contributed notes on a thirteenth-century papal charter to the Abbey of Kinloss in Morayshire, now in the archives of the See of Ossory. The charter confirms privileges granted in the year 1219 by Pope Honorius III., and has been executed with great skill and care. Though slightly damaged, it bears intact the signatures of the Pope and attesting Cardinals. It was evidently unknown to Dr. Stuart when he wrote the history of the abbey, as also seemingly was the fact that this Pope had conferred any privileges on the monastery. It is unknown how the charter found its way into the archives of Ossory, but it was suggested that it may have been through Bishop Pococke, the well-known traveller, who occupied the See. The signatures are affixed in the form customary in the case of such documents, the Pope's being placed between the rota, or wheel-like cross, and the monogram, which stands for "Bene valet"; while beneath are those of three Cardinal-bishops, on the left those of four Cardinal-priests, and on the right of five Cardinal-deacons. A transcript of the charter accompanied the notes.

Mr. James D. Cairns described an incised cross-stone of early date in the burying-ground of Isle Martin, West Ross-shire. Vague local traditions were given regarding the priest whose grave the stone was supposed to mark.

Mr. John Fraser gave an account of the excavation of four burial mounds, "the Knowes of Trinwaan," in the parish of Harray, Orkney, one of which con-

tained a short cist, and another, within a small stone-built cavity, a steatite urn, which Mr. Fraser has presented to the National Museum. The urn contained about a pound weight of partly burned bones. The two remaining mounds contained neither cists nor urns, but disclosed on examination a few fragments of bone and of charred wood. The mound containing the urn was formed of earth and turf, and measured some 6 feet in height.

Mr. Eric Stair-Kerr gave his reasons for concluding that Randolph's exploit, in which he scaled the rock of Edinburgh Castle and recovered the fortress from the English in 1313, took place on the north side, not on the south, as presumed by Sir Walter Scott.

Mr. Alexander Thoms, St. Andrews, demonstrated that the stone of which St. Regulus Tower is built was derived from local sources, and not, as has been stated, from Jarrow-on-Tyne. Mr. Thoms arrived at his conclusions after microscopical examination and expert geological opinion.

At the April meeting of the LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY, Mr. A. A. Brickhill exhibited a photograph of a sexton's wheel. These once common instruments are now reduced to two specimens, the perfect one at Long Stratton, Norfolk, and a fragment at Yaxley, Suffolk. This is carefully kept in the vestry at Long Stratton Church, and in the pre-Reformation days was used to determine the day on which a fast or a penance was to be kept or begun. The instrument consists of a wheel fixed in a fork, which is attached to a handle for support or suspension. There were in both the Long Stratton and Yaxley wheels eight compartments of which one was a blank, thus leaving seven, each of which was labelled for a day of the week. A man having a fast to keep, or a penance to perform, repaired to the sexton, who produced the wheel and set it in motion. As it slowed down the person caught at a tape, and whatever compartment he stopped by means of the tape, on that day the fast or the penance was to be observed. The wheel is 2 feet 8 inches in diameter.

The annual meeting of the SURREY ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY was held at Guildford on April 19, the Lord-Lieutenant of Surrey, Colonel the Hon. H. Cubitt, in the chair. It was reported that the membership was 496. With reference to the suggested possibility of the sale of two silver Commonwealth flagons belonging to the parish church of East Horsley, and which had been in the possession of the parish since 1649, it was stated that they were the only specimens of the period in the county, that they were of great rarity and beauty, and that their loss would be a serious misfortune to the church plate in Surrey. A resolution was passed expressing the hope that the parishioners would see their way to retaining the flagons in the possession of the parish.

Mr. H. E. Malden gave an interesting address descriptive of some of the recent additions to the museum. He first mentioned a very small sepulchral urn found in a garden on the edge of Cotmandene, near Dorking. The urn was of about the Christian era, and was marked by Celtic ornamentation. There

were also fragments of other urns as well as some flint implements and an ancient hearth with burnt stones. He next exhibited to the audience a small bone counter bearing the arms of a Surrey family, named Branch, which was unusual, and went on to speak at length of the find of the top or slab of an altar tomb during alterations at the Ram Corner, Guildford, which had been rescued from use as a paving stone. He thought the stone must have been used for more than one person, because the remains of the original inscription were written in Lombardic letters and belonged to about the fourteenth century, but on the top there were the matrices of two brass shields, which were of a later date—probably two hundred years afterwards. He was afraid that they must remain in considerable uncertainty as to whom the slab originally referred. It was interesting to have it rescued from ill-usage and neglect, and some day, possibly, further light might be thrown upon it. A large Roman sepulchral urn from Reigate was next referred to, and also two stone sleepers from the Surrey Railway from Wandsworth to Croydon, the Act of Parliament for making which was passed in 1801; a beaker belonging to the early bronze period, the only example ever found in Surrey; a very large cinerary urn containing ashes, found at Womersley in a round barrow in 1900, and presented by Mr. Hodgson, and belonging to the later bronze age (400 B.C. as a moderate date); and an ancient stone quern—a hand-mill for grinding corn—found at Burpham, and given by Mr. Bowles.

At the annual meeting of the NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY on April 23, Canon Greenwell was unanimously re-elected president. In his presidential address, speaking of the Galilee in Durham Cathedral, which was alleged to be unsafe, the venerable Canon expressed the opinion that the Galilee would stand as long as the cathedral itself stood, and there was no reason to suppose there was any fault with it. Concluding, he hoped that next year he would be able to meet them again, but when a man got to be ninety-three it was time that he went out of the world. He did not know a single person of his own time. He did not even know the second generation. They were all gone, and he was left alone. Of course, one could make fresh friends, but the old associations could never be restored.

The THOROTON SOCIETY (Notts) held its annual meeting on April 9, when Mr. H. Hampton Copnall, Clerk of the Peace of the County, presided. The report of the Council showed that the Society was both prospering and doing useful work. Two summer excursions were organized in 1912, one in the neighbourhood of Annesley and the other at Wollaton Hall, kindly placed at the disposal of the members by Lord Middleton. Mr. J. A. Gotch pointed out the architectural features of this fine Renaissance building prior to the visitors inspecting the interior. Two winter meetings were also arranged, at the first of which a paper was read on "The Eighteenth-Century Houses in Nottingham," by Mr. Gill, who brought to light many interesting objects, which he illustrated by lantern slides. At the other meeting Dr. T. Davies

Pryce read a paper on "The Roman Station of Margidunum," situated on the Fosseway near to Bingham, where research is in progress.

A meeting of the ST. ALBANS AND HERTS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY was held on April 23, when Mr. R. H. Forster lectured on "The Excavations at Corstopitum," with lantern illustrations; and another on May 3 in the Great Gateway of the Monastery, St. Albans, when Mr. C. H. Ashdown gave a general outline of the history and architecture of the Gateway, and conducted the members and friends to the objects of interest.

Mr. F. W. Dendy presided at a meeting of the NEWCASTLE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES on April 30, when Mr. G. Renwick exhibited ancient flooring tiles discovered in excavating Newminster Abbey, which he purchased some time ago, and also cooking utensils found in the crypt. He said columns had been found which would enable them to reconstruct the arch of the chapter house, and interesting material was being found every day. He hoped to invite the Society to visit the excavations in June. Mr. J. Oswald exhibited photographs of new windows found whilst lowering the ground round Seaham Church, and the Chairman remarked that while they had been described as Saxon, they were probably Norman.

Mr. R. O. Heslop presented a new translation of a tombstone found at South Shields, and said Dr. Percival had examined it and found it showed a lady seated in an alcove with needlework, and the inscriptions were in Latin and Palmyrean, the latter probably intended for Semitic reading only, and stating that the erector of the stone was now a cave-dweller living in anguish.

At a meeting of the HELLENIC SOCIETY on May 6, Mr. Joseph Curtis read a paper, with lantern slides and musical illustrations, on "New Light on Ancient Greek Music." The effect of music on the ancient Greeks, he said, was almost exactly opposite to that on people of the present age. What moderns regarded as plaintive they considered bold and manly. The modern rag-time melody would probably have reduced them to tears. The delicacy of the Greek ear and artistic perception could not be attacked, and their perception of absolute pitch was astonishing. The "Athenian Hymn to Apollo," in the Phrygian notation, was shown and sung by students.

The Foundation Meeting of the SURREY RECORD SOCIETY was held in the rooms of the Society of Antiquaries on April 15, Lord Farrer presiding. Rules were made for the governance of the Society and officers were elected, including Lord Farrer as president, Mr. P. Woods, C.B., as honorary treasurer, Mr. M. S. Giuseppe as honorary editor, and Mr. Hilary Jenkinson as honorary secretary. The object of the Society is to print, and publish in the interest of the history of the county of Surrey, transcripts, abstracts, indexes or lists, according as may be deemed expedient in each case, of documents, or series of documents, preserved in any public or private collections. Additional members are greatly needed

in order to ensure the satisfactory working of the Society.

The annual meeting of the WARWICKSHIRE FIELD CLUB was held on May 8, Alderman W. Andrews presiding. The first paper on the programme was one by Alderman Kemp on "The Players at Warwick." Mr. T. S. Burbidge then recorded the finding of a quantity of broken pottery of the Roman-British period, including part of a *patera*, in the Chapel Fields district of Coventry, and mentioned that this was the first record of the finding of remains of this period within the city boundary. In a short discussion which followed Mr. Andrews said he was under the impression that some Roman pottery was once found in the River Sherbourne, and Mr. Horwood observed that most of the fragments found by Mr. Burbidge were Upchurch ware.

Mr. S. S. Stanley reported his discovery of a fossil plant as yet unclassified from the Keuper strata of Milverton, Leamington; and Mr. A. R. Harwood (Leicester Museum) read a paper on "The Jurassic Rocks of Leicestershire (with remarks on the formations contiguous to it) compared with that of Warwickshire."

After the reading of the papers Alderman West said he thought there was one matter it was appropriate to refer to before closing the meeting: that was the gift by Colonel Wyley of the ancient Cook Street Gate to the city of Coventry. He had pleasure in proposing: "That the Warwickshire Archaeologists' and Naturalists' Field Club beg to express to Colonel Wyley their admiration and thanks for his action in presenting the ancient Cook Street Gateway to the city of Coventry, thus preserving one of the threatened and few remaining ancient monuments of that city."

Mr. T. S. Burbidge seconded, and said that it was a gift which they as archaeologists would thoroughly appreciate. Cook Street Gate is one of the only two remaining city gates out of the thirty-two towers and gates which formerly dominated the three miles of city walls erected in the fourteenth century, and dismantled in the reign of Charles II.

Other meetings have been those of the ROYAL SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF IRELAND on April 29, Count Plunkett presiding, when the Very Rev. Jerome Fahy read a paper on "The Islands and Shores of the Corrib"; the SUNDERLAND ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY on April 15; the annual meeting of the DORSET FIELD CLUB on May 6, when the president, Mr. N. M. Richardson, gave a review of the principal scientific achievements of the past year; the YORKSHIRE ARCHITECTURAL AND YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY on April 22, when Mr. Harvey Brook lectured on the work accomplished on the site of St. Mary's Abbey since May, 1912; the annual meeting of the ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY on April 29; the visit of the HALIFAX ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY to Norland on May 3; the SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY on May 21, when Professor C. F. Lehmann-Haupt read a paper on "Semiramis in History and Legend"; and the annual meeting of the SUFFOLK INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY on May 7, when energetic protests were made against the continued removal and destruction of ancient buildings in Suffolk.

Reviews and Notices of New Books.

[Publishers are requested to be so good as always to mark clearly the prices of books sent for review, as these notices are intended to be a practical aid to book-buying readers.]

THE CHRONICLE OF LANERCOST, 1272-1346. Translated, with Notes, by the Right Hon. Sir Herbert Maxwell, Bt. Eight plates, and coat-of-arms in colour on title-page. Glasgow: James MacLehose and Sons, 1913. 4to., pp. xxxii + 357. Price 21s. net.

Quarter by quarter this translation has been appearing in the pages of the *Scottish Historical Review*, and now it is put forth in book form, finely printed and handsomely bound, in an edition of 200 copies at a guinea net, and 100 copies on hand-made paper, bound in half vellum, at two guineas net. The work forms a worthy companion to the same translator's version of Sir Thomas Gray's *Scalacronica*, published in 1907 (see the *Antiquary* for that year, p. 315). The Lanercost Chronicle, in its original Latin, is familiar to all serious students of Scottish history in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries; but the classical languages, as Sir Herbert points out, are not studied nowadays to the extent they formerly were, nor is the proportion of those who keep up their classical studies, and who keep their knowledge of Greek and Latin fresh and bright, so large as it used to be. Consequently, a translation such as this, which is not only faithful, but is itself excellent English, with just the necessary touch of archaicism to give a flavour of mediæval days, will be a boon, not only to those students who have little Latin, but to all students of the period. The entire Chronicle covers the period 1201-1346. Sir Herbert Maxwell has translated the part which deals with the last seventy-four years of that period—i.e., the reigns of Edward I. and II., and part of the reign of Edward III.—“a period of perennial interest to Scotsmen, who, however,” adds the translator, “must not be offended at the bitter partisanship of a writer living just over the Border”—Lanercost Priory being in Cumberland. The authorship and original source of the manuscript Chronicle has been disputed; but to Sir Herbert Maxwell's translation there is here prefixed an introductory chapter in which Dr. James Wilson, than whom few speak with more authority on subjects of this kind and period, discusses and analyzes the whole of the evidence, with the result that he comes to the conclusion that “the preponderance of evidence favours the Augustinian house”—i.e., the Priory of Lanercost, Cumberland, as the source of the Chronicle. The sources of the Chronicle are, he remarks, “a strange mixture of written history and oral tale. Many of the stories there recorded, some of them being in glorification of the Mendicant Orders, were taken down from the lips of a narrator. An Augustinian house with the geographical advantages of Lanercost was well adapted to serve as an emporium of news, and the ubiquitous friars, who often assisted the canons in parochial administration, were convenient agents to collect the supply. But the corpus of the Chronicle, taken as it exists in

manuscript, was compiled from written sources, and the institution from which it emanated was well supplied with some of the best materials for the period to which it relates.”

The plates include very fine photographic views of the ruined Lanercost Priory Church, Durham Cathedral, and the interior of Hexham Abbey Church, a facsimile of a page of the manuscript, and views of the Priory Church and Carlisle Cathedral from drawings by T. Hearne, of 1780 and 1802. The index is adequate.

* * *

TWO LOCAL HISTORIES.

A HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF BRIGHTLINGSEA. By E. P. Dickin, M.D. Eight plates (one of them in colour), eight figures in the text, and folding map. Brightlingsea: T. W. Barnes, 1913. Demy 8vo., pp. xii + 184. Price 4s. 6d. net. Three hundred and fifty copies printed.

BOURNE IN THE PAST: BEING A HISTORY OF THE PARISH OF WESTBOURNE. By Rev. J. H. Mee, Mus. Doc. Hove: Combridge, 1913. Demy 8vo., pp. x + 312. Price 10s. 6d. net. (post free, 11s.).

It is pleasant to see the activity which prevails in the study of local history. Every year sees considerable additions to the long list of books on particular towns or parishes, and the worth of such books is much greater in many cases than it used to be. Two particularly good examples are those now under notice. Dr. Dickin's book shows evidence of original and painstaking research to an unusual extent on every page. The history of the township and manor is carefully traced, and a particularly valuable chapter is given on Brightlingsea as a member of the Cinque Ports. Dr. Dickin has made extensive researches in the Sandwich records, and prints a large amount of fresh information. This chapter, indeed, is a contribution of some importance to Kentish history as well as to that of the old Essex town. The ecclesiastical history of the parish is also well done. The gift of the manor of Brightlingsea to the Abbey of St. John the Baptist in Colchester by William I.'s steward was confirmed by William II., and the confirmation by royal charter was repeated more than once afterwards. Dr. Dickin gives as full a list of the Vicars as is possible, and in his account of the various sixteenth and seventeenth century changes in religion and Church government preserves an admirably impartial attitude. The local industries, details of domestic life in mediæval and later days, and some miscellaneous matters, fill the later chapters of the book. There is a fair index and a very long list of authorities, but the system of referencing seems to us awkward and repellent. This is a small matter, however. Dr. Dickin writes well and clearly, and has made his book thoroughly interesting.

The second volume before us deals with a retired and comparatively little known corner of Sussex—the village of Westbourne, near Racton, on the Hampshire border. A particularly interesting feature of Dr. Mee's treatment of the manorial history is the reproduction in photographic facsimile of two maps of the manors of Westbourne and Prinsted (the latter in the parish of Westbourne), both made in 1640.

Careful study of these maps, the numbers and references on which are fully explained and annotated in the text, is calculated to give the student a much clearer idea of the system of tenure and cultivation that prevailed 300 years ago than written exposition can give. There are full chapters on old roads and watercourses, ecclesiastical history, crimes and riots and local courts, royal visits, local tokens and old industries, family names and notable people. No aspect of local history has, indeed, been neglected. It is a very full book, the preparation of which must have involved much labour and research. Dr. Mee was unable to revise the work because of ill-health. It has consequently been edited, and some of the sections have been finished, by Mr. L. F. Salzmann, F.S.A., whose name is a guarantee for careful and scholarly work. There is a full index, and the book is creditably produced.

Both these local histories are much above the average of such works, and should be warmly welcomed by the antiquaries and topographers of the two counties to which they do honour.

* * *

MEMORIALS OF OLD NORTH WALES. Edited by E. Alfred Jones. With many illustrations. London: *George Allen and Co., Ltd.*, 1913. Demy 8vo., pp. x+261. Price 15s. net.

This volume is somewhat of a new departure in the County Memorials series, for it deals, not with a county, but with an extended district embracing several counties. There are good reasons for this no doubt, but as a result the volume somewhat lacks the concentration of interest found in most of its predecessors. Most editors of these volumes must have found the work of selection difficult, but such difficulty must have been experienced in unusual degree by Mr. Jones. He explains that the work "has no pretensions to be a general history of North Wales; its main purpose is to throw into relief certain features, archæological and historical, architectural and biographical, which necessarily cannot receive full treatment in a general history." One or two of the chapters stand out from the others. Mr. Ditchfield, in the introductory "Historic Wales," gives as satisfactory an outline, perhaps, as can be expected within the limits of twenty-three pages. Dr. Hartwell Jones is thoroughly at home in dealing, with somewhat more elbow-room, with the history of "The Church of North Wales." Mr. Edward Owen sends a too brief but suggestive sketch of "The Social and Economic Conditions of North Wales in the Fourteenth and Sixteenth Centuries"; and the history of the numerous "Castles of North Wales" is, on the whole, well done by Mr. H. Harold Hughes, though he should not misspell Mr. G. T. Clark's name. Mr. Hughes is also responsible for chapters on Bangor and St. Asaph Cathedrals, and the Religious Houses and the Parish Churches of North Wales, in which the architectural features and historic fortunes of these varied fabrics and institutions are rapidly outlined. English readers will turn with peculiar interest to Mr. L. J. Roberts's chapter on "The Eisteddvd"; and they will find some illuminating remarks and expositions, with many unfamiliar names, in Sir Edward Anwyl's account of "The Poetry of North Wales." The other chapters

deal with Llewelyn the Great and Llewelyn the Last, the Cromlechs of North Wales, Owen Glyndwr, Archbishop Williams, the Origin of Nonconformity, Relics, Civic Plate, Regalia, etc. It will thus be seen that the selection of topics is amply varied, and may be regarded as fairly representative. Mr. Jones is to be congratulated on the success with which he has performed a difficult task. The volume is well illustrated and handsomely produced.

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THE BERWICK AND LOTHIAN COASTS. By Ian C. Hannah. With sixty-five illustrations, by Edith Brand Hannah (Mrs. I. C. Hannah). London: *T. Fisher Unwin*, 1913. Crown 8vo., pp. 368. Price 6s. net.

It is certainly a happy thought to add a volume on the Berwick and Lothian coasts—those of the counties of Berwick, Haddington, Edinburgh, and Linlithgow—to the "County Coast Series." The towns and villages, hills and valleys on and near this coast-line abound in historical and other associations. Berwick-on-Tweed, the starting-point, strangely neglected by tourists, is, with the exception of Chester, the only completely walled town in England, and Mr. Hannah has much to say of the part the old town has played in border history. Then there is a remarkable succession of castles, for the most part now very dilapidated, but all eloquent of a stirring past. There are old-world towns and peaceful villages dotting closely or at a short distance a rocky coast with plenty of attractions for the geologist. Edinburgh itself comes into the scheme of the book and occupies some ninety pages; but the charm and glamour of the old town, the wealth of its memories, its associations and suggestions have been more successfully realized and pictured by other writers than they are here, though Mr. Hannah's pen is industrious and conscientious. More valuable and useful are the other pages of the book, which deal with the less familiar story of the rest of the strip of coast between Berwick and Borrowstounness. Mr. Hannah has done his work very carefully, and has drawn upon wide resources of material. His style is rather dry, and he somewhat fails to convey the spirit of the scenes he describes; but all the same he has provided tourists and readers with a useful and reliable handbook to a richly-storied portion of our island coast. Those who may be in doubt as to where to spend a vacation might do much worse than buy a copy of this book and a ticket to Berwick-on-Tweed, and then let Mr. Hannah conduct them through a country of much picturesque charm, and rich in historical and literary associations. The book is very freely illustrated, partly from photographs and partly from clever drawings by Mrs. Hannah. It is satisfactorily indexed.

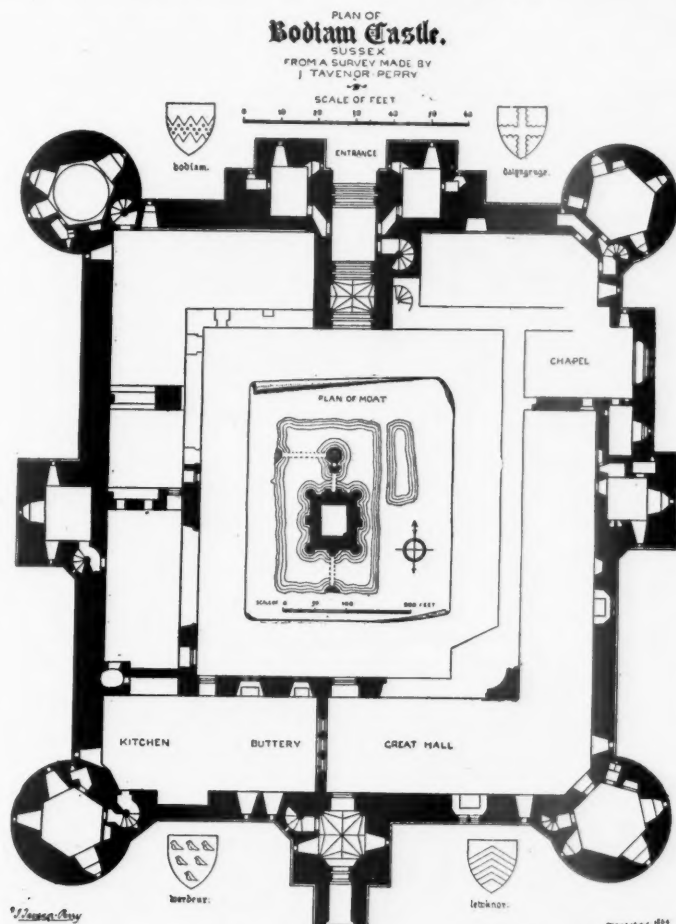
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THE HISTORY OF BODIAM: ITS ANCIENT MANOR, CHURCH, AND CASTLE. By the Rev. Theodore Johnson. Twenty-seven illustrations. Hastings: *F. J. Parsons, Ltd.*, 1913. Crown 8vo., pp. vi+51. Price 1s. 6d.

Built towards the end of the fourteenth century, Bodiam Castle, Sussex, is a typical example of the fortress of the late Plantagenet period. Mr. Johnson, the Rector of the parish, gives some good reasons for

believing that it was never properly completed, or, at all events, that any occupation must have been but partial and of short duration. At the present time its appearance is both grand and picturesque—the effect being much increased by the position of the fortress in the midst of a moat, which may more properly be called a lake, with the castle standing on an island in the midst thereof. Mr. Johnson has been fortunate

in succession of its owners; and a detailed account of the various parts of the castle. He adds a few pages, historical and descriptive, about Bodiam Church—a building which has been very thoroughly “restored,” and, except for a few fragmentary brasses, does not contain anything of special interest. The little book will be found very useful by the many visitors who yearly go to see the frowning walls and



in obtaining for his little book, as frontispiece, an excellent ground plan, drawn by the skilful pen of Mr. J. Tavenor Perry, which we are here courteously permitted to reproduce. A plan of the moat, it will be observed, is inset in the middle of the ground plan. The construction of the castle followed the usual lines of the period—a parallelogram with massive towers at the angles. Mr. Johnson gives some particulars of the early manorial history of Bodiam, and of the

towers of Bodiam. Apart from one or two typographical eccentricities, such as a profuse and unmeaning use of capital letters, it is well printed, very freely illustrated, and altogether is an unusually good example of the right sort of local handbook, though the title is a trifle too ambitious.

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We have received Nos. 1 and 2 of the *British Architect* (March and April), edited by Richard Holworthy,

and published by C. A. Bernau, 20, Charleville Road, W. Some particulars were given in the April *Antiquary*, p. 150, of the somewhat novel lines on which it was proposed to produce this new genealogical periodical. These first two issues certainly promise a very useful publication. The arrangement by which each section can be detached, so that when a series of papers is complete they can be taken out and bound, must be found helpful; for readers of, and subscribers to, such a periodical will naturally wish to select for preservation what they find most useful or valuable. The two parts abound in genealogical material. Outstanding articles are "Edouart's Collection of Silhouettes," by Mrs. Nevill Jackson, in No. 1, and the "Battle of La Hogue, 1692" (extracts from the parish registers of Northwood, Isle of Wight), by Mr. S. Andrews.

* * *

We have received Fasc. 1, dated April, of *Neapolis* (Naples: F. Perrella and C., Galleria Principe di Napoli, 16), a new quarterly review of archaeology, epigraphy, and numismatics. The editors are Signor V. Macchioro and Signor L. Corraja, respectively assistant professor of archaeology and assistant professor of ancient history in Naples University. The publication is under the auspices of the Archaeological Municipal Committee of Naples, and the leading idea is to bring together news and elucidatory articles on excavatory and other archaeological work in Italy, especially in Southern Italy and Sicily. The number before us contains 118 quarto pages, with a number of admirably produced plates and many illustrations in the text. Mr. Adolphe Reinach begins a series of "Notes Tarentines" in French, and there is a German paper, "Ueber die Bedeutung der sogenannten busti in der Vasenmalerei," by Herr Kurth. The other papers (Italian) include "A proposito di una tomba dipinta di Canosa," by Michael Rostowzew, and "Intorno al contenuto oltremondano della ceramografia italiota," by Professor Macchioro. There are also many reviews of books, etc. This new *Rivista* is most creditably produced, and as a medium of authentic information and competent criticism concerning one of the most interesting, and in the future probably one of the most productive of archaeological fields, it deserves the support of British antiquaries. The annual subscription is 20 francs (15 francs for Italy), single number 5 francs.

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The *Architectural Review*, May, contains some very fine reproductions of etchings by William Walker; an attractive paper, lavishly illustrated, on "The Hôtel Carnavalet, Paris," by Mr. W. H. Ward; freely illustrated articles on "The Reform Club, London," by Mr. S. C. Ramsay, and on "Nailsea Court, Somerset"; the second part of Professor Lethaby's "Architecture of Londinium"; and much other excellent matter, literary and pictorial. The *Berks, Bucks and Oxon Archaeological Journal*, April, begins a new volume. Mr. C. E. Keyser writes fully on "Hanney Church," with ten fine plates, and the Rev. J. E. Field continues his topographical notes on the parish of North Moreton, Berks. Other useful notes and contributions make up a good number of a welcome publication.

The quarterly *History* continues to maintain its freshness and value. The new issue, vol. ii., No. 2, is distinguished by "The Unpublished Correspondence of Sir George Rooke," during the naval campaign of 1703-5, contributed by Mr. A. M. Broadley. Among the other contents are suggestive papers on "The Public Library and the History Student," by Dr. C. A. J. Skeel; "The Teaching of History," by C. H. K. Marten; and the second part of Dr. Gerthwohl's striking review of "Nero in Modern Literature." To the *Musical Antiquary*, April, Mrs. R. L. Poole sends a paper on "The Oxford Music School" and its collection of portraits, illustrated by four well-produced portraits of Oxford seventeenth-century musicians. There are also, *inter alia*, an important paper, embodying much fresh material, on "The Ferrabosco Family," by Giovanni Livi, and an article on "Il Giocatore," by O. G. Sonneck. We have also received *Rivista d'Italia*, April; parts iii. and iv. of the *Journal of the Alchemical Society* (H. K. Lewis, 136, Gower Street, W.C. Price 2s. net each), slim pamphlets of sixteen pages each, which contain papers on "An Interpretation of Alchemy in Relation to Modern Scientific Thought," by Sijil Abdul-Ali, and "The Evidence for Authentic Transmutation," by Gaston de Mengel, with discussions thereon; and Fascicule 14 of the valuable bibliographical quarterly—*Répertoire d'Art et d'Archéologie* (Paris, Rue Spontini, 19).



Correspondence.

FIG SUNDAY.

TO THE EDITOR.

The letter from Mr. Boyson on p. 200 reminds me that a precisely similar custom of eating figs on that particular Sunday was observed to a small extent in this city some forty years ago; but in a part of Northamptonshire that I often visited then it was almost universally observed, as it may be still. In this locality I believe it has quite died out. I wonder if the custom of eating "cheese-cakes" at Easter is in use in any other county or district than this? Until comparatively recent years it was a very general thing, but it is gradually falling into disuse.

W. HOBART BIRD.

The Gate House, Coventry.

May 5, 1913.

NOTE TO PUBLISHERS.—We shall be particularly obliged to publishers if they will always state the price of books sent for review.

It would be well if those proposing to submit MSS. would first write to the Editor, 7, Paternoster Row, London, stating the subject and manner of treatment.

TO INTENDING CONTRIBUTORS.—Unsolicited MSS. will always receive careful attention, but the Editor cannot return them if not accepted unless a fully stamped and directed envelope is enclosed. To this rule no exception will be made.